

Hafa Adai!

Torres hopes to meet with CPA officials. **PAGE 3**

Tropical disturbance brings rain until Saturday. **PAGE 5**

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75¢

Airport runway lights down again

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A possible short circuit of unknown origin caused the fluctuation of the runway lights at the Francisco C. Palacios/Saipan International Airport beginning 6:19pm Wednesday night that resulted in the cancellation of one flight and the delay of several others, according to Commonwealth Ports Authority acting executive director Chris Tenorio.

In a media conference at 12pm at the CPA conference room, Tenorio said currently night landings on the lightless runway of the Saipan International Airport are the pilots' full responsibility.

He also cleared that the airport would not be closed, despite the runway's faulty lighting.

"Right now for night operations, it's the pilot's discretion. Just to make

See AIRPORT on Page 4

» **1 flight canceled, several others delayed until morning**

CUC needs 'just' \$124.7M for infrastructure projects



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board treasurer Joe Torres explains a point while board vice chair Eric San Nicolas listens during yesterday's board meeting. One of the many topics discussed is CUC's goal to have 24-hour water supply on Saipan.

» **Not \$321M as initially stated**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. needs an estimated \$124.7 million and not \$321 million for its infrastructure replacement and improvement project for Saipan.

CUC acting executive director Gary P. Camacho disclosed the correct figure during yesterday's CUC board meeting.

Asked about the error after the board meeting, Camacho said some numbers were inputted incorrectly.

See CUC on Page 4



Ownership of Northern Islands submerged lands transferred to CNMI

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A memorandum of agreement that establishes certain terms and conditions of management of the Northern Islands submerged lands was signed by the CNMI government and federal officials yesterday during the fourth day of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting Marianas at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed for the Common-

See OWNERSHIP on Page 4

ERWIN ENCINARES

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, center, poses with, from left, All Islands Coral Reef Committee's Fran Castro, Department of Interior Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs Lorie Faith, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Assistant Administrator Eileen Sobeck during the fourth day of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting Marianas held yesterday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

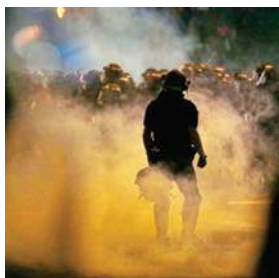
INSIDE



LOCAL

Although CNMI Cultural Diversity Day is weeks away, Mount Carmel School has begun preparing for the event by planning numerous events to commemorate the occasion.

PAGE 26



NATION

Authorities in Charlotte tried to quell public anger Wednesday after a police officer shot a black man.

PAGE 29



LIFE & STYLE

The filmmaker Mira Nair was familiar with the regal grace of Lupita Nyong'o long before most.

PAGE 33



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Local

Budget conference meeting resumes

The bicameral conference committee meeting continues its budget deliberation today at the conference room of House of Representatives of the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building on Capital Hill.

The budget conference committee re-convenes at 1pm today to review and finalize House Bill 19-196 SS1 CCS1 together with the final Conference Committee Report.

The meeting enters its third day today after convening for the first time last Tuesday at 1:30pm and ended past 7pm. They started early yesterday and again finished late.

Their deliberation centered on the areas that were rejected by the House of Representatives. The House, in an emergency session last Saturday, voted 18-2 to reject the Senate's version of HB 19-196.

The Senate reduced the funds of the Marianas Visitors Authority by \$1.5 million and re-assigned it to other agencies and departments. The Saipan Mayor's Office and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services will be getting a combined \$800,000.

Both the House and Senate panels, after two days of deliberation, are slowly meeting halfway in trying to resolve the issues that were the point of contention in the early part of discussions.

House vice speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) is the acting chairman of the House panel, while Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) is his counterpart in the Senate being the Fiscal Affairs committee chair. *(Jon Perez)*

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Torres hopes to meet with CPA officials

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is hoping to meet with officials of the Commonwealth Ports Authority to get information on the current status of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Flights were again delayed early Thursday morning due to another malfunctioning runway light.

Outbound flights like Philippine Airlines were delayed by more than three hours. The CPA held a press conference at 12noon yesterday with acting executive director Chris Tenorio informing the public that they are trying their best to remedy the situation.

Torres, speaking to the media in yesterday's 36th U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting at the Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall, said CPA is an autonomous agency able to generate its own revenue and handle its own operational budget.

He added that the problems that continue to plague the airport have also been his administration's concern. "The status of our airport is all of our

concern. Tourists fly in and out from it. All of us won't be able to generate its revenues if no tourists would come in."

"It is not only the CPA or the [Marianas Visitors Authority] but the entire government. So it is in the best interest of everyone that this incident would never happen again. I'm going to ask the CPA for an update. I'm going to ask to meet not only the board, but also the acting director."

Torres said he would like CPA officials to prioritize and expedite the process of having their own technician. "So we don't have to get one from Guam. We need to have our own technician on board."

"We must have our own technician to fix these kinds of problems right away. It also gives us the opportunity to get an update on the status of the runway on a daily basis," added Torres.

A number of equipment at the Saipan airport have malfunctioned in the past two months. The runway lights have bogged down numerous times. In December 2015, for instance, rats were blamed for the problem.

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CHAMBER'S 8-POINT ECONOMIC DEV'T ROADMAP

'Land, zoning issues impact Commonwealth'

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Third of four parts

Land and zoning issues also have a significant impact in the CNMI, especially when it

comes to the environment, according to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development Roadmap. Rapid development, expanded population, zoning issues, and lack of planning are the factors that would have a direct affect on

the islands' environment

The report said that CNMI banking institutions are not offering a wider range of portfolios that are available in other areas with getting a commercial loan and lines of credit remain limited. The Chamber's

report added that Articles XI and XII of the CNMI Constitution, which discusses lands in the CNMI, "are impeding opportunities for business growth."

"A longer length in public land leases would be helpful in

easing the lending situation and in stimulating the economy. A recent proposed bill by [Sen. Francisco] Cruz would abolish Article XII and require land owners to file in order to keep the Article XII restriction for their own land if they wish," said the Chamber report.

"The Chamber suggests the reverse: leaving Article XII but allowing land owners to individually remove themselves from the restriction and to enjoy fee simple. For Article XI, the Chamber suggests allowing land leases up to 99 years."

The Chamber report is also suggesting that a mechanism should be put in place in collecting commercial property taxes from the business or investor that develops the property rather than the landowners.

The report added that with foreign tourists visiting Saipan to experience the white sandy beaches, lush vegetation, and its natural beauty that's why steps should be taken to protect the main attraction of the island.

"The business community is built on a healthy tourism market and the tourism market depends on a beautiful island. The CNMI will need to put its own funds toward this effort," said the Chamber report.

They are also encouraging all Chamber members to lead by example in efforts to maintain the islands' tourist sites. "It would be prudent to post images in the airport arrival areas stressing the importance of keeping the island clean and tidy, and perhaps playing a video at the baggage [claim section] showing examples of good stewardship."

The Chamber report wants the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the Marianas Visitors Authority directly involved in the community project to keep the island free of litter. "Perhaps, airlines could show arrival videos to encourage responsible actions from visitors."

Local businesses are also encouraged to adopt public beaches to keep it clean and inviting in order to be enjoyed by everyone."

They also wanted to strengthen the efforts of maintaining the islands' tourists sites and want all tourism companies to be registered to keep track of their schedules. "Palau is strict regarding tours for visitors and maintaining their pristine environment. Saipan could benefit from following that example."

AIRPORT

From Page 1

everything clear, the airport is not closed. We sent out a Notice to Airmen, so it is the pilot's discretion now to land or not to land," said Tenorio.

When asked whether CPA is concerned about the safety of the flights coming in without runway lights, Tenorio bluntly stated, "It's up to the pilot's discretion."

When attendees of the press conference suggested that the airport operate only during the daytime, Tenorio was quick to dismiss the idea.

"That is up to the airlines to decide if they want to do day ops, but we're not closing the airport, we are not going to say it's only day ops. We're still opening the airport. It's up to

the airlines to work out their schedule. We are not going to close the airport," reiterated Tenorio.

Airline personnel who attended the media conference seemed frustrated by the nonchalance of Tenorio's answers with one staff claiming that connecting flights were taking a big hit, and that the airlines are losing money because of the off and on lights at the Saipan airport.

Tenorio responded that the CPA is doing the best they can and that they are even willing to bring people from off-island to assist them, even if it meant that repairs would most likely be delayed.

"We are concerned about that [connecting flights], that's why we are trying our very best. We are working with everybody, and in fact, if we

need to bring in people from Guam to assist us, then we will do that right now," said Tenorio.

Tenorio shared that the proper evaluation of the situation is now ongoing and assessments are being made.

"Our guys went out to try and do assessments on the lighting, which was very hard to do due to the weather, so with that, there were no flight cancellation, except for Cape Air, and also one airline came in on midnight, with the rest all delayed until the morning."

Possibly short circuit to blame

Airport master electrician Steve Koch said the runway most probably lost its lighting due to a short circuit of unknown origin.

"There's either got to be an open circuit, a short somewhere, and now we're in the process of trying to track down which leg is causing the issue."

Koch also said that this issue was different from the last situation. "The lighting issues we've had before is actually burnt wires. We've replaced those and they worked, and there's probably another leg that hasn't been checked or replaced yet," said Koch.

Early yesterday morning Tenorio denied that flight disruptions were due to the faulty lighting of the runway. He initially claimed that they only experienced delayed flights.

CPA has already received verbal approval by the Federal Aviation Administration to work on the lighting of the runway.



ERWIN ENCINARES

Far left, Commonwealth Ports Authority acting director Chris Tenorio conducts the press conference and meeting with the heads of airlines at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport conference room yesterday.

CUC

From Page 1

"We corrected and obviously it's much lower," said the acting executive director.

The \$321 million figure was contained in CUC's first report submitted recently to Senate Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications committee chair Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan).

Camacho submitted the report in response to Igisomar's Senate Resolution 19-48 that requests the CUC and the Department of Public Works to submit its physical development plans on infrastructure projects in the Third Senatorial District.

According to the corrected CUC report obtained by

Saipan Tribune, the power generation expansion plan is estimated at \$61,158,672, while all proposed projects for Saipan's water system's estimated cost for Fiscal Year 2017 and FY 2018 is \$34,940,000 and \$28,650,000 respectively, or for a total of \$63,590,000.

This brings to a grand total estimate cost of \$124,748,672 for the power generation expansion and proposed Saipan water system projects.

The first CUC report estimated the power generation expansion plan at \$61,158,672, while the cost for all proposed projects for Saipan's water system is estimated at \$259,850,000. This brings to a total estimated cost of \$321,008,672.

The first report estimated

the cost for all proposed projects for Saipan's water system at \$259.9 million instead of only \$63.4 million is due to errors in computation in all but one in the descriptions of the projects. Only the estimate in the description work of installing working meters on all service connections at \$500,000 is correct.

The corrected report estimated the cost for leak detection and repair at \$15,140,000 instead of \$15,640,000 in the first report; for drilling new wells and pump inventory the cost is \$4,100,000 instead of \$39,380,000; for Lower Base sewer the cost is \$2,500,000 instead of \$22,240,000; for Abandon Isley Booster Stations the cost is \$2,700,000 instead of \$24,940,000; for Isley/As Perdido transmis-

sion main replacement the cost is \$3,500,000 instead of \$28,440,000.

The corrected report estimated the cost for minor upgrades at \$3 million instead of \$31,440,000; for San Roque distribution main modifications the cost is \$650,000 instead of \$32,090,000; for tank meters the cost is \$200,000 instead of \$32,290,000; for evaluating the impact of commercial developments on infrastructure the cost is \$600,000 instead of \$32,890,000.

The corrected report also contains other descriptions that the first report does not have.

The corrected report includes estimated cost of \$25 million to replace old deteriorated pipes, \$1,500,000 for SCADA; and \$4 million to replace the Dandan reservoir.

OWNERSHIP

From Page 1

wealth, while Department of Interior Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Interior Affairs Lorie Faeth and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Assistant Administrator for Fisheries Eileen Sobeck represented the U.S. government.

The MOA is one of the final steps for the transfer of the submerged lands around the islands of Uracas, Maug, and Asuncion and associated mineral rights to the CNMI. The MOA also lays out roles and responsibilities of the CNMI, NOAA Fisheries, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the preservation and protection of the natural resources of the Marianas Trench Marine National movement.

Torres recognizes and credits those who have made the MOA signing possible.

"This MOA is the result of a great working relationship between the CNMI, NOAA, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service," he said. "We are now on the final stretch of regaining a significant part of our cultural heritage and reinforcing our commitment to preserving and protecting our natural resources in the Northern Islands, and I want to thank everyone who played a part in getting to this point."

Sobeck said that NOAA was proud to be a participant in the preservation of precious underwater natural resources. "NOAA Fisheries is pleased to

partner in the announcement of another milestone in the transfer of submerged lands to the local government," she said.

Sobeck even states that NOAA Fisheries is looking forward to maintaining a meaningful relationship. "This is an accomplishment borne of close collaboration and we look forward to continuing strong relationships as we work together to keep these incredible underwater natural resources sustainable and resilient."

"This MOA represents a tremendous amount of collaboration and hard work between the two federal agencies in the commonwealth and this is a really important step toward transferring the submerged lands to the CNMI and it's really important resources," said Faeth. "It's really an honor to be a part of this."

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) extends his gratitude toward those involved in the MOA signing through a press release. "I want to thank Governor Torres and his team for successfully negotiating this agreement and their federal counterparts, including Ms. Eileen Sobeck, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries at the Department of Commerce and Ms. Lori Faeth, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs at the Department of Interior."

The signing of the MOA would be followed by a 60-day congressional review, prior to which would be a patent execution.

Tropical disturbance brings rain until Saturday

A tropical disturbance moving westward passed south of Guam yesterday, bringing rains in the Marianas region.

According to the U.S. National Weather Service Guam, the tropical disturbance would possibly develop into a tropical depression last night or today, Friday.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres advised residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota that weather conditions will be changeable over the next few days.

Torres asked the people to maintain necessary precautionary measures for current marine conditions and to stay informed on the latest statements and advisories, which will be available through local media sources and other agencies.

NWS said the disturbance will continue to bring increased showers and thunderstorms along with windy and gusty conditions to the area through Saturday.

NWS said winds are around 20 miles per hour in Saipan and surrounding waters. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Military exercises at W-517

The CNMI EOC Warning Point in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas (N3) Guam, would like to inform the general public that the U.S. military unit will be conducting military exercises at Warning Area-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam on Sept. 27 and 28 from 12pm to 6pm on both dates.

The general location of this activity will be at W-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam comprising southwest into international waters.

Due to the danger imposed by these activities, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is strongly advising the general public especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators to stay away from these areas during the time and dates indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CNMI EOC Warning point at telephone number (670) 237-8000, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. *(PR)*



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**FIGHT THE BITE!**

Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog, seated second left, joins Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. officials and staff, led by its chief executive Esther Muna, seated left, and other members of the executive in last week's proclamation signing that declared October as Zika Awareness Month.

JON PEREZ

Maintenance worker, 55, arrested for sexual abuse of 6-year-old girl

A 55-year-old maintenance worker was arrested in Susupe on Wednesday afternoon for allegedly sexually abusing a 6-year-old girl in Chalan Kanoa last month.

Police said during an interview on Wednesday, defendant George Delos Santos admitted he sexually abused the girl and stated he was just waiting for his salary today, Friday, so he could leave the CNMI and go back to his wife in the Philippines.

Delos Santos was taken to the Superior Court yesterday

for bail hearing on charges of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$100,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for Sept. 27 at 1:30pm.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for Delos Santos. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

Police Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated that a police officer was dispatched to a public school last Aug. 29 for a reported sexual abuse case.

Pangelinan in her report said the officer met with the girl, who was with her parents and a school official.

According to the girl's father, for several times they

could not find their daughter around the house.

The father said when they asked where did she go, she would say she was at Delos Santos' room.

The father said that last Aug. 28, he confronted his daughter where she was earlier.

The girl admitted she was inside Delos Santos' room, where he touched her private parts. The following day, the father reported the matter to a school official.

Pangelinan said during her interview last Wednesday, Delos Santos admitted that he sexually abused the girl.

Pangelinan said during a consent search, she seized a pornographic DVD disc inside defendant's DVD player. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Ex-lawmaker asks CEC to allow poll workers to represent independent candidates

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ana Sablan Teregeyo, an independent candidate for the House of Representatives Precinct 1, yesterday asked the Commonwealth Election Commission to allow independent candidates the opportunity to be represented by poll workers and poll supervisors at the polling places designated for the Nov. 8 election.

But CEC counsel assistant attorney general Michael Witry explained that the statute is clear that CEC has no discretion to allow that.

Witry said it is up to the Legislature to amend the law.

Teregeyo said she is fully aware of the statute, Public Law 12-18, as amended, which does not mention of privileges on election day specifically for independent candidates.

Teregeyo, a former long-time lawmaker, said as a certified independent candidate for Precinct 1, she found it very ironic that privileges were not provided for candidates except those who represent the "recognized political parties" of the CNMI.

"To me it is discriminatory. Plain and simple," she said.

CEC board chair Frances M. Sablan said as AAG Witry stated, CEC is bound by the law.



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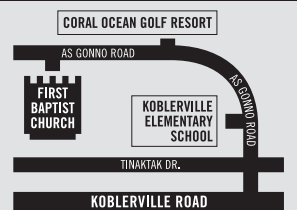




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By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission unanimously voted yesterday for the appointment of Julita A. Villagomez as CEC's executive director.

At the CEC's board meeting held at the Pedro Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, CEC counsel assistant attorney general Michael Witry stated that the appointment of an executive director does not need approval from the governor.

Witry said the CEC board can appoint the executive director as long as there is enough budget for the position.

CEC board chair Frances M. Sablan moved for the appointment of Villagomez as executive director.

Commissioner Juan E. Santos (Tinian) seconded the motion.

Former lawmaker Ana Sablan Teregeyo expressed her support for the appointment of Villagomez, whom she described as a good friend and an effective CEC staff.

Teregeyo said she is very confident that Villagomez is going to be a good executive director.

The commissioners then voted unanimously for Villagomez as executive director.

Villagomez thanked the commissioners for their vote of confidence in her.

In an interview after the meeting, Villagomez said all she can say is that she is willing to help her co-workers do good job with the election coming up this November.

"We have to treat everybody equally," said Villagomez who has been serving as acting executive director since 2014. She has been employed with CEC for 28 years now.

Villagomez first worked at CEC as an administrative assistant in 1988, then she became an administrative officer.

Chair Sablan said the appointment of Villagomez has long been awaited for.

Sablan said the board wanted to address that item in the agenda sooner but they were not sure on the legalities are especially in the absence of an assistant attorney general in their previous meeting.

Sablan said now having an AAG and his comments, they saw that they do have the authority to go ahead and appoint Villagomez.

Julita Villagomez appointed CEC executive director

"So this meeting serves as a public hearing. So we basically have our dots connected. We are very pleased, we are very happy that she is the executive director," Sablan said. The chair said Villagomez has been serving CEC even before she (Sablan) came on board more than 20 years ago.

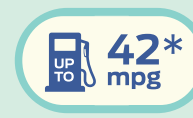


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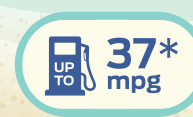
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Intn'l Festival of Cultures goes vogue



The fourth week of the 2016 International Festival of Cultures hosted by the Marianas Visitors Authority last Sept. 17 featured a cultural fashion show, which wowed spectators both locals and tourists alike at Paseo de Marianas.

Among the many that showed off their traditional

ERWIN ENCINARES

Filipinos showed up to the fashion show displaying the various traditional clothing based on region, level of formality, and theme during the 2016 International Festival of Cultures' fashion show last Sept. 17.



ERWIN ENCINARES

A Chamorro Mestiza dress, which was introduced by the Spaniards and was worn for special occasions until the 1970s was worn at the cultural fashion show.



Bangladeshi men wearing their traditional Punjabi, traditional casual wear in Bangladesh. The women are wearing Saree.

clothing on the stage were representatives from Japan, Tahiti, the CNMI, the Philippines, the Federated States of Micronesia, Korea, Bangladesh, Samoa, Fiji, and Tonga—a true testament to the CNMI's melting pot of cultures.

The International Festival of Cultures will be hosting the Parade of Cultures tomorrow, starting from Beach Road, and making their way to Paseo de Marianas, the venue of the last day of the monthlong activity. Special guest representatives from Hawaii would also be making their debut for 2016, hosting a Luau at their tent tomorrow. (Erwin Encinares)



Korean children smiling as they show off Hanbok, the Korean traditional casual wear.

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CCA still looking for betel nut chewers

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Cancer Association program director Juan L. Babauta renewed their call for volunteer betel nut chewers to be part of a study program that is being done in cooperation with University of Guam's Cancer Research Center.

Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* that three chewers have already signed up to volunteer for the intervention program. "But we're still looking for volunteers. We're recruiting people who want to join the program."

It is a paid program launched by UOG-CRC in partnership with the Hawaii Cancer Research Center. UOG-CRC secured close to \$27 million in research grants from the National Cancer Institute to fund their various studies in the next four years.

"Their [UOG-CRC] partnership with us is very helpful and we are very thankful for all the help given by Dr. Paulino for oral cancer research. Oral cancer has become a major concern here in the

CNMI," added Babauta.

UOG health sciences assistant professor Dr. Yvette C. Paulino is the project's coordinator.

Dr. Robert A. Underwood and Dr. Rachel T. Leon Guerrero are the general principal investigators of the Cancer Research Grant.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will also be signing House Bill 19-165, an act that would prohibit the sale of areca or betel nut to minors, in a ceremony at 11am today at the Governor's Office conference room of the Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building in Capital Hill.

Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) introduced HB 19-165. He based the bill on recent studies and reports of its health risks that causes oral cancer, with or without tobacco.

Betel nut chewing has been a part of the Pacific Island culture especially in the CNMI and its Micronesian neighbors—Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Guam. Betel nut was discovered to be an addictive substance with or without adding tobacco.

CCOPS starts membership drive

The Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools is having a membership drive. Schools that would like to join CCOPS will need to provide the necessary paperwork for the Compliance Committee to review. The required documents are a current business license, a copy of the school's current curriculum, and an anonymous list of current faculty assignments

and their qualifications.

The coalition will also hold a meeting on Sept. 28 at 3:30pm at the Mount Carmel School faculty lounge. Current and prospective members are invited to attend.

If you would like more information about joining CCOPS, please contact the Coalition president, Galvin Deleon Guerrero at galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com. (PR)

"Over the years betel nut chewing has become a significant public health problem. Oral cancer is alarmingly increasing within our society and sadly most cases result in death because of its aggressive nature," as stated on HB 19-165.

"Thus, the Legislature finds the need to develop policies to protect our youth from the dangers of developing oral cancer," added.

For those who wanted to volunteer or more information on the program, call Babauta at 682-0050 or at email cca@ccamarianas.org or ccamarianas@gmail.com.

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Miss Marianas 2016 Peachy Quitugua travels today with Marianas Visitors Authority marketing team to the 2016 JATA Tourism Expo in Tokyo until Sunday.

MVA will host a signature booth of scheduled activities at the expo some of which will be photo opportunities with

MVA, Miss Marianas head to JATA

Quitugua, traditional coconut candy making and tasting as well as coconut palm weaving.

Stellar Marianas, a non-profit organization, is proud to continue to work in partner-

ship with MVA for the promotion of the Northern Mariana a tourist attraction to the Asia Pacific region.

"I would like to thank MVA for this wonderful oppor-

tunity to help showcase the beauty and hospitality of our islands to thousands of visitors and Japan's travel industry," said Quitugua.

"I look forward to promoting our islands, meeting other delegations, and remind everyone of the excitement and adventure that awaits them here," she said.

JATA and the Japan Travel and Tourism Association have merged along with their signature events, the "Tabi Fair" and "JATA Tabihaku" to create the JATA Tourism Expo Japan.

According to its press release, JATA Tourism Expo Japan is internationally recognized as one of the largest travel events in the world, presenting Japan as a tourism nation to the world and further developing outbound, inbound and domestic travel "by bringing together the combined strengths of not only the tourism industry, but all industries in Japan and its local communities." As the ideal forum for showcasing destinations, JATA Tourism EXPO Japan is also providing opportunities for travel professionals to conduct effective business meetings, while in-



DAISUKE YANAI
Miss Marianas 2016 Peachy Quitugua is all smiles in this photo shoot.

spiring consumers through the power of travel.

Travel professionals from over 150 countries and regions are exhibiting in the event where they directly interact with over 150,000 visitors.

JATA Tourism EXPO Japan

remains the focus of many industry representatives as the flagship event where they and general consumers would be able to exchange information while being exposed to the latest travel industry information. (PR)

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MTEC readies for its annual school outreach

The Marianas Tourism Education Council will begin its annual fall outreach next month, taking its message of the importance of tourism to students at junior and senior high schools, with plans to continue outreach to elementary schools in the spring.

"The MTEC education outreach will focus on the contribution of tourism to the islands' economic well-being, with different messages for 5th, 8th, and 10th graders," said MTEC chair Vicky Benavente. "In particular, MTEC is supporting the growing workforce needs in the community by encouraging high schoolers to consider the various careers in the tourism and hospitality industry. We welcome industry representatives who would like to visit the schools with us next month and share their stories."

Last year MTEC visited 17 schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota in partnership with the

Marianas Visitors Authority.

"As a founding member and continued partner of MTEC, the MVA is looking forward to again working closely with MTEC this year on sharing the very important message that 'Tourism is Everybody's Business,'" said MVA managing director



Benavente

Christopher A. Concepcion. "We have a beautiful island home that hundreds of thousands of people pay to visit every year, and students of all ages can take pride in that and help our economy by being friendly to visitors and keeping the islands clean and attractive."

Schools interested in having an MTEC presentation may contact MVA Community Projects specialist Ryan Calvo at rcalvo@mymarianas.com or MVA Community Projects assistant Jennalyd Babauta at jbabauta@mymarianas.com or 670.664.3210 to schedule a date. (PR)

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Millions on the move

Around the globe some 60 million people are on the move. They pack what belongings they can carry and set off as families or in groups, making their way as best they can on rickety boats, crammed inside trucks, perched atop trains or on foot. Some seek a better life, but many are just fleeing war and conflict, glad to be alive. Though their lives have been turned upside down, much of the rest of the world continues to look on with indifference.

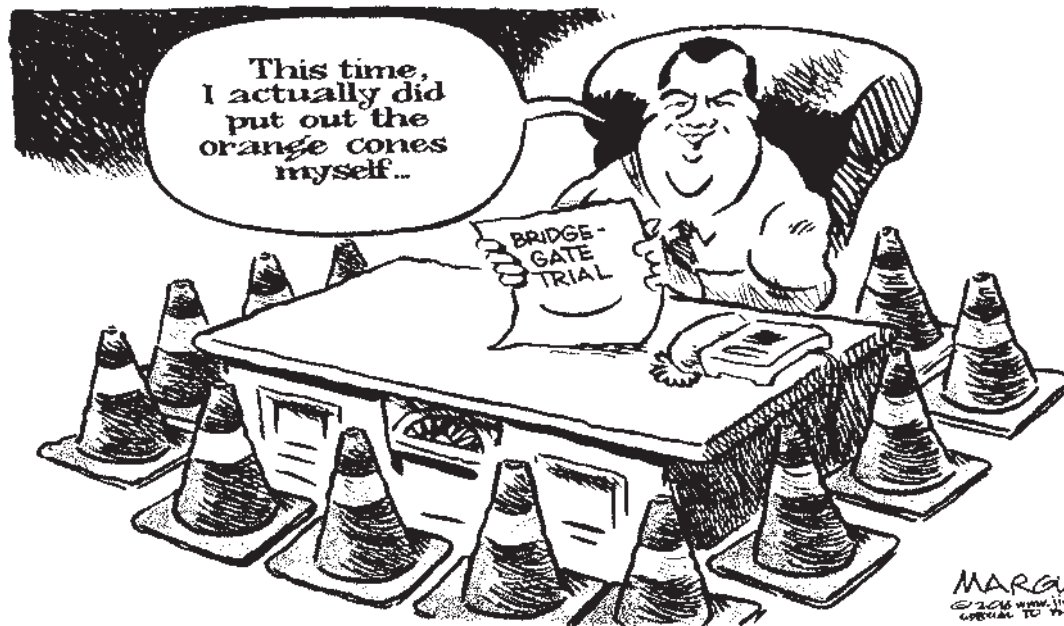
That is why we are encouraged by President Barack Obama's call on 45 countries attending the opening session of the United Nations in New York this week to take concrete action to address the humanitarian catastrophe unfolding on Europe's southern flank, where waves of desperate migrants from Syria, North Africa and elsewhere have been arriving on Greek and Italian beaches in recent years. Obama's appeal followed a U.N. declaration approved on Monday that aimed to provide a more coordinated and humane response to the refugee crisis, but that document contained few specifics. The president's plan goes much further toward filling those blanks.

Among the steps Obama has proposed are increasing humanitarian aid for the new arrivals by \$3 billion and doubling the number of refugees who are offered resettlement in European Union countries and the U.S. (This year the U.S. took in some 10,000 Syrian refugees, but that's an infinitesimal number compared to its population of 300 million; by contrast Germany, with a population of only 80 million, has taken in more than 800,000 migrants since last year alone. The Obama administration has pledged to resettle 110,000 Syrian refugees next year, but that's still a pittance compared to some other countries.) In addition, the president wants to increase access to education for 1 million refugee children and create a million more jobs for their parents.

"In the eyes of innocent men and women and children who through no fault of their own have had to flee everything that they know, everything that they love, we have to have the empathy to see ourselves," Obama said in final address to the world body. "We have to imagine what it would be like for our families, for our children, if the unspeakable happened to us." The president insisted the world would be a safer place if the international community reached out to help those in need "even when the politics are hard." In speaking of the latter, the president no doubt had in mind the resurgence of right-wing nationalist parties in Europe and elsewhere that have capitalized on a revival of xenophobia and bigotry against foreigners.

Obama spoke against the backdrop of what has become the greatest mass migration since World War II and the largest movement of peoples in recorded history. They are coming not just from Syria but many other countries and regions as well, including Afghanistan, Iraq and any of a dozen or so other nations in sub-Saharan and North Africa. Moreover, some experts warn that the mass movement may continue or even increase, possibly for years or decades to come, as a continuing legacy of the world's failed states, intractable conflicts and environmental disasters.

Obama is right that the world's leaders can't wish away or ignore these developments. The migrants are fleeing persecution, poverty, ethnic and religious strife and war, but these are

See **MILLIONS** on Next Page

Casino: Game of wits

In recent past, there was opposition by both the administration and gaming commission to tax Best Sunshine beyond the 5 percent business gross receipts tax. This because of the \$37 million it remits to the NMI for various programs. The excuse trumpeted: it is not the right time!

I was ready to accept the explanation but then this type of industry could easily recoup investments in a matter of time or three to six years. That BSI came forward paying \$37 million annually raises more questions that needed answers.

By working the figure \$37 million backwards or 5 percent BGRT, what then is the gross income upon which the fee is based and deducted? Can someone with knowledge of taxation explain this riddle for our benefit? What's the gross revenue?

Or is the fee a pull-off-the-hat figure based on some estimate? Is it based on \$200 million or billions of dollars? This issue requires transparency so we know the score full square. Otherwise, the island has just turned into a fully established money-laundering center for rich players from nearby Asia, a not so healthy development!

Budget: Cain and Abel

The budget for any fiscal year is the central issue before the legislature. The discussion usually results in the final disposition of funds for all three senatorial districts of Rota, Tinian and Saipan.

Interestingly, Sen. President Francisco Borja refuses to appoint a senator from Rota to partake in the budget conference committee. Sen. Steve Mesñgon, the loquacious and articulate representative from Rota is the appointed member but is off-island inspecting swap venues in Honolulu and Palau. He ignores that the issue of greatest importance is on Saipan, specifically, the budget conference committee.

Sen. Paul Manglona has sought the appointment of a senator from his district knowing it's the last-ditch effort to protect Rota's interest in the disposition of NMI financial resources. Borja has looked the other way or played blind, deaf, and mute! It's all the political malpractice of stupidity!

It's obvious the issue has the equivalence of the biblical story of Cain backstabbing his brother Abel out of unjustified fear and greed. The two small senatorial districts have had a history of joining hands against the larger Saipan delegation on this matter. I quiz why is Borja hesitant to ensure Rota is represented in the budget discussion? Is it because Manglona has superior education and professional wherewithal thus his fear of being relegated to the shadows of a well-spoken senator?

Why not settle for a resolution senator who could at least render common decency guarding Rota's interest in the final disposition of the NMI's fiscal resources? Or is Borja still intransigent for a fear his days are numbered? Where's your sense of moral responsibility to ensure fair representation of our brothers and sisters from the island of Rota?

Guarding authority

Most folks have taken to minding their own business (passivity) over taking an active and proactive role guarding what's ours. I understand the inconvenience when presented with a challenge that requires defending the future of our children. But it

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



is equally the only process or avenue where we openly express our considered or educated views or both on issues that matter.

For instance, on my case against the MV *Luta*, specifically, the expropriation of \$400K; isn't it true that it pertains to legislative constitutional authority to appropriate? Why didn't the eggheads in the Legislature sue to guard, restore, and protect its authority on this matter?

Or are the guys and gals ready to shove the issue under the rug for political purposes or complicity? Didn't you take an oath to uphold the laws of the land? How did you miss the boat?

Friends, a renowned author on risks said, "If you see fraud and didn't yell fraud, you are a fraud!" Am I making sense? Humiliating your grand sense of servility allowing the violation of constitutional law specifically on your authority to appropriate! Is your inaction another of your grand imaginative excuses?

Future of local workforce

A secured future of local workforce is highly doubtful. The combined elite's lack of a set of plans on this score from both sectors isn't helping any reset the button to do something proactively. They seemed convinced we are easily mesmerized by their empty spouts. No señor!

Not quite! We've kept our ears to the ground realistically dissecting your fully throttled excuses to avoid the inevitable: making realistic commitment to train and educate the local workforce so they begin getting their feet wet.

Recently, we heard testimonies by Rafael Torres, Alex Sablan, and our illustrious non-voting delegate Kilili justifying the need for more CW workers beyond 2019. This isn't what I find problematic as much as the lack of a commitment to commence an organized training and education programs to enable the jobless to find hopeful beginning in meaningful employment at home.

It doesn't deter you from addressing over 1,000 high school graduates who come out annually searching for jobs right here at home. Did you forget the evacuation of over 3,000 people from home in recent years because opportunities have fizzled out completely? Has the suspect economy improving lured them back home? Gee! This canoe is riddled with more holes than imaginable!

Moreover, the agency (USCIS) has major bureaucratic deficiencies in the recent granting of over 100,000 illegals U.S. citizenship without the appropriate vetting process. Maybe this is why it treats our concerns as inconsequential a bit busy trying to provide answers to probes by certain committees of the U.S. Congress.

Power to the people

I'm going to take a look at a practical, hands-on topic, one that's a follow-up to a piece on the automotive front, but which has broader applications. In my Jan. 22 column ("Jump!") I looked at the world of hand-held jump starters. Today I'm going to crank things up a notch, and consider a bigger and heavier device that's good for jump starting cars, and which can also serve as an electrical source for blackouts, remote job sites, extended beach parties, or camping trips.

I'm not aware of any universal descriptive for these things, so I'll just call them "power stations," and leave the jump-starting element implied.

Power stations are typically about the profile of a small laser printer if you stand the printer on its ear. They have handles on the top so you can lug them around. "Lug" is no idle term, given that they typically weigh about 20 lbs.

As useful as they are, they're sort of tricky to buy for a few reasons. First of all, availability: Their internal lead-acid batteries are sufficiently large that shipping regulations can make things cumbersome. Their heavy weights, furthermore, add to the shipping costs. Therefore on Saipan, or other island markets, local availability is going to be a constraint on your options.

A second element of the equation: Although most power stations look vaguely the same, they don't all have the same features. Here are six features that I've found useful in a power station: (1) jump starter; (2) tire inflator; (3) 12-volt DC power via an automobile-style socket; (4) 5-volt DC power via a USB port; (5) 120-volt AC power via a household-style outlet; (6) small spotlight or floodlight.

A third issue is that one of the most important specifications for these things, which is the capacity of their internal batteries, often goes unmentioned in basic product descriptions.

Let's peel that subject open right now. The amount of juice that a power station holds is commonly specified in ampere-hours (often abbreviated as "amp-hours"). Since all the models I'm aware of use 12-volt batteries, the ampere-hour figure is something of an apples-to-apples comparison between different models. All else being equal, the bigger this number, the longer it can power the stuff you plug into it.

As a mere consumer, doing my best to scrape by in a technical world that I don't really understand, I think a decent amp-hour rating for a power station is in the 18 amp-hour to 20 amp-hour range. Some models have less than half that, but you'd never know it from the advertisements. You might have to download an owner's manual to find this specification, but it's worth the effort for pre-purchase research.

This leads to another, entirely separate, specification that is commonly trumpeted, which is the peak output in Watts for jump starting. I've yet to have a car fail to turn over when zapped with a 1,000-Watt jump starter, so that's apparently good enough for my fleet of jalopies. Well, that's just fine, but if you're using a power station as a power source for your gear, the amount of hours you can power your stuff is tied to the amp-hours, not to the peak Watts.

As for jump-starting, some models have sturdy clamps that open wide enough to get a good bite on a car's battery terminals. Other models have useless clamps, so this is something to take a look at.

As for tire inflators, I regard them as suitable for very occasional, last-ditch service, but they can indeed (slowly) inflate a tire.

As an electrical source, power stations are useful for devices with very small power needs, such as radios, cell phones, laptop computers, and air mattress pumps. You're not going to power a

By ED STEPHENS JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



microwave, air conditioner, or any other full-fledged appliances with one of these; that stuff needs the muscle of a generator.

To give some sort of perspective, I estimate that my smaller laptop computer could go about 35 hours powered by my power station.

A power station is usually recharged via a normal household AC outlet. Some models come with a dedicated converter that's necessary for recharging. Me, I'd lose that converter in about three days. Other models just require a standard extension cord. Hey, that's for me.

As for local pricing, the couple of models I'm aware of that can be ordered from Saipan's auto parts stores start at about \$261, but, again, there's no standard array of features on these things, so it's up to the buyer to decide what's necessary and what isn't. In a pinch, as long as you've got a 12-volt socket on the thing, you can always buy converters, inverters, and portable tire inflators to cover the other needs, so there are work-arounds available if you need them. I'm not good at much, but I'm a maestro at powering everything in life with a 12-volt car socket.

I mostly use my power station for camping. After all, nothing says "back to nature" like having electricity for your computer, so when the simple life calls, my answer is: "Power to the people."

Silencing whistleblowers

Although Oliver Stone's new movie, *Snowdon*, hasn't yet appeared in our local movieplex, it is certainly stirring up controversy.

I am sure you have heard of Edward Snowden. As a former contract worker for the NSA, the CIA, and other intelligence organizations, he copied thousands of top secret documents onto his laptop and then escaped to Hong Kong.

It was in Hong Kong that Mr. Snowden met with Glenn Greenwald, editor of *The Guardian*, and provided Mr. Greenwald with pages of shocking revelations: that our NSA was not only spying on our enemies, but also our allies, and on U.S. citizens—often recording phone calls; or data-mining smartphones. None of this was legal or above-board, and Snowden blew the whistle. Then all hell broke loose.

Adding fresh fuel to the controversy is that the *Washington Post* has turned against Edward Snowden, recommending that he not receive a presidential pardon.

Did the *Washington Post* forget that they received a Pulitzer Prize for publishing many of Snowden's revelations? No, they stabbed a source in the back.

Despite pleas from Oliver Stone, and others, President Obama refuses to grant Snowden a pardon; so Mr. Snowden will probably remain in Moscow indefinitely.

Snowdon once stated: "I took an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution, but then I discovered that others above me were violating it consistently."

This is still unfortunately the case.

Wikileaks

Similar to Edward Snowden is the Australian-born Julian Assange, who is currently holed up at the Ecuadorian embassy in London.

Using his website, Wikileaks, Assange has released thousands of controversial documents, and plans to release more. They're

all there: thousands of documents, including the damning emails within the Democratic National Committee (DNC).

What these documents reveal is that powerful people routinely break the law, lie and manipulate others in order to further their own personal or political agenda.

Especially odious are the revelations that political access via Hillary Clinton's State Department was often granted if a hefty contribution to The Clinton Foundation was made. It's called "pay for play"—in other words, bribery.

It doesn't get any juicier than this; and the media are drooling as they await the latest revelations from Mr. Assange—which he plans to release before the presidential election.

Despite being a virtual prisoner at the Ecuadorian embassy, Assange continues to appear in the media via Skype, and to answer questions from the press. Still, many consider him a traitor and want him dead. I am not one of them.

To me, Julian Assange has performed a great service by leaking the dastardly goings-on at the DNC, the Clinton Foundation, the U.S. State Department, and other official organizations. In my view, when the peoples' business is being conducted, there is no place for bribery, lying, or other illegal activities.

A very good movie

If you ever watched "The Insider," a 1999 movie which starred Russell Crowe and Al Pacino, you saw what can happen to a whistleblower who dares to expose the truth.

Russell Crowe plays Jeffrey Wigand, a scientist and vice president of Brown & Williamson Tobacco Company in New York. Al Pacino plays Lowell Bergman, an intrepid investigative journalist for CBS's "60 Minutes."

When Wigand decided to blow the whistle about the addictive chemicals added to tobacco in cigarettes, he walked into a firestorm of threats and intimidation. However, with the staunch support of CBS's Lowell Bergman, Wigand found courage and went on national TV to reveal the truth about addictive, poisonous additives to cigarettes.

This resulted in a multi-billion dollar legal settlement, and Wigand was exonerated.

However, most stories of whistleblowers do not have happy endings; and those who come forward with potentially "dangerous" information are either "suicided" or, if they live, their lives become an eternal nightmare. Their bank accounts are seized and they can't get a decent job.

Although this kind of nasty stuff goes on in corporate America, it also extends into every aspect of U.S. intelligence and military, whose employees are required to sign either an oath of secrecy, or a non-disclosure agreement. If they go public with what they know, they're finished. They cannot sue or otherwise seek redress in a court of law. That's the agreement to which they signed their names, and to which they swore solemn oaths.

By RUSS MASON

Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, *Alternative & Complementary Therapies*. His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.



These agreements are lousy and unfair, but they have sharp teeth. And many good people with important information to reveal have been intimidated into silence.

Two other whistleblowers come to mind: Kay Griggs and Ted Gunderson, and both can be seen in compelling YouTube videos.

Gunderson was with the FBI for 27 years, and ran the Los Angeles FBI division. Upon retirement from the bureau, he became a private investigator.

Because Gunderson was a seasoned professional, he discovered that many important people in the U.S. government were pedophiles and/or satanists. He uncovered a vast network of these nefarious individuals and went public. He named names and let the chips fall.

However, as it often happens with those who disclose too much, Gunderson was poisoned to death—arsenic powder was found in his car.

Kay Griggs (who I believe is still alive and well) was married to Colonel George Griggs of the U.S. Marine Corps.

They had not been long married when Kay discovered that her husband like to get drunk, which he did almost every night.

While he was loaded, Colonel Griggs would tell his wife about what really goes on in the military: that there is a shocking amount of perverse sexual behavior among many of the officers, and that promotion was usually reserved for those who "played ball."

Colonel Griggs talked about a Navy Seal team assassinating former CIA director William Colby. According to Mrs. Griggs, the Seals didn't know the identity of the "target," only that he had to be "taken out" in a "wet operation." This, according to Mrs. Griggs, was only the tip of the iceberg.

In several hours of video testimony Kay Griggs truly spills the beans, and there is one shocking revelation after another. She's fearless; I love this woman.

Thank goodness for YouTube. On this wonderful channel, you can see and hear Kay Griggs, Ted Gunderson, Edward Snowden, and Julian Assange. That is, if you want to learn what's really going on in our country and the world.

Because, if you trust CNN, FoxNews, or MSNBC, you're being duped.

MILLIONS

From Page 14

often only symptoms of a more profound economic and social upheaval that threatens to overwhelm even the world's largest and best-equipped welfare systems. That is why this historic movement of refugees from the global south to the global north, and from rural areas to urban centers, is not just a problem for Europe but for the whole world. As the president said today, if we can't imagine ourselves in the position of the millions of people who have been driven from their homes by forces beyond their control, we could eventually find ourselves sharing their fate.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY

Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.

▲87° ▼77°

SATURDAY

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.

▲88° ▼77°

SUNDAY

Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲89° ▼79°

MONDAY

Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.

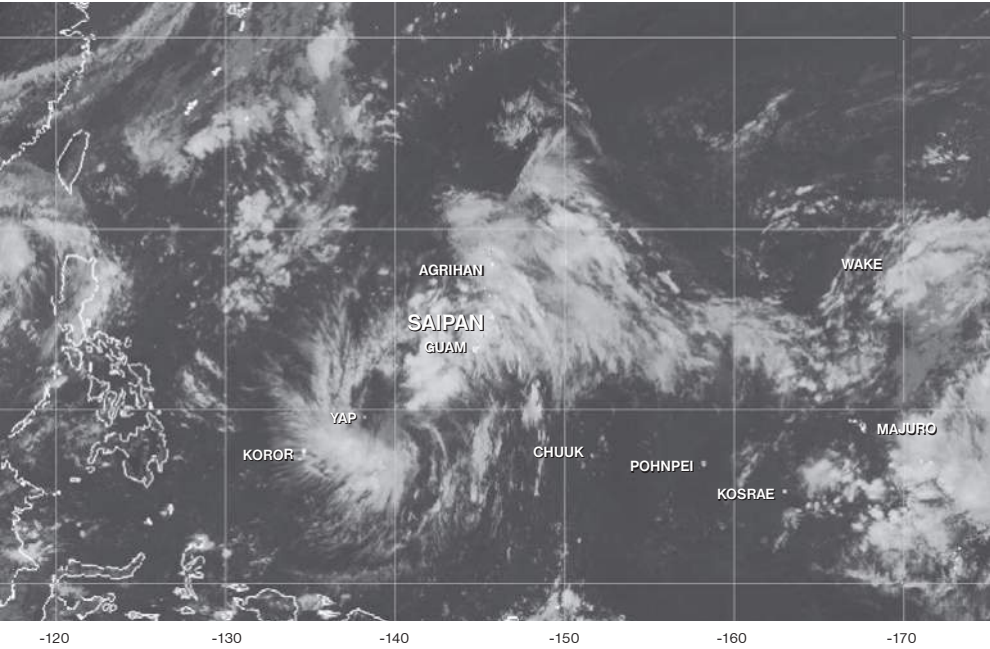
▲89° ▼79°

TUESDAY

Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 3:31 PM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Last night`s scatterometer data and early morning radar imagery hint that the circulation is south of Guam between 11N and 12N and 146E. Models initialize well in showing the circulation near that position. Models agree that the circulation will continue to move northwest through the day eventually being located near 15N140E on Friday morning. 24 hour pressure change indicates falls over the Marianas with a 5 Mb fall being observed on Guam and between 3 and 4 Mb at Saipan. This increase in pressure falls indicates that the circulation continues to organize...at least it is attempting to do so. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near midnight have given way to nearly isolated conditions by 5 am. Showers should increase through the day so left scattered showers in the forecast. VAD winds at 2kft just after midnight were up to 32 knots but by 430 a.m. they had decreased to 19 knots.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Heavy rain	80 / 86 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	81 / 86 °F
Yap	Thunderstorms	79 / 88 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	81 / 89 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	77 / 88 °F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	82 / 87 °F
Majuro	Partly sunny	81 / 87 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Mostly cloudy	57 / 62 °F
Beijing	Partly cloudy	60 / 83 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly cloudy	80 / 87 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	73 / 85 °F
London	Sunny	50 / 67 °F
Los Angeles	Morning clouds	57 / 80 °F
Manila	Broken clouds	79 / 92 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	46 / 63 °F
Miami	Flash floods	77 / 88 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	64 / 85 °F
Osaka	Partly cloudy	67 / 81 °F
Paris	Morning clouds	57 / 76 °F
Pusan	Morning clouds	65 / 76 °F
Rome	Scattered clouds	58 / 76 °F
Salem	Cloudy	52 / 59 °F
San Francisco	Partly sunny	54 / 70 °F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	56 / 79 °F
Tokyo	Mostly cloudy	68 / 74 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	65 / 87 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
6:51 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.09 Feet
1:54 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.71 Feet
7:23 PM	LOW TIDE	1.09 Feet
-	-	-

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:06 AM	6:12 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:11 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	11:59 PM	12:12 AM
Saturday	11:59 PM	1:08 AM
Sunday	12:54 AM	2:01 PM
Monday	1:50 AM	2:51 PM
Tuesday	2:44 AM	3:38 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

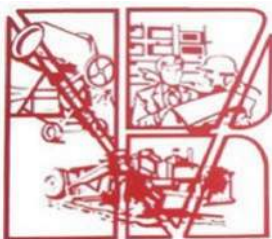
Congratulations!

Calvin Klein

Your optimism is infectious.
Your **Courage** and **Keen** interest on your company
are qualities that really stand out! We wish you all the
best on your new business venture.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

How to build a better community

In the summer of 2013, as I was preparing to leave Saipan for graduate school, I remember feeling hopeful for the future of our Marianas. We had

just emerged from a dark period marked by abuses of power by the Commonwealth's highest officials, and it seemed as though a citizen-driven move-

ment for honest, effective government was blossoming.

To recap recent history: in 2009, the Open Government Act was reapplied to the Legislature, thanks to overwhelming voter support for the popular initiative that made that happen, and despite fierce resistance from some lawmakers at the time. From 2010 to 2013, citizens began to openly challenge abuses of executive power that were coming under increasing scrutiny in the media and in the legislative chambers. One brave lady stood outside her house with a handwritten cardboard sign that read, "Honk...Impeach." Her solitary act inspired many others to speak up. Rallies in the streets, letters to the editor, protests on social media, and testimonies at legislative proceedings eventually culminated in the historic impeachment and resignation of the Governor in early 2013.

In the midst of this political tumult, the Office of the Public Auditor was conducting an investigation that led to criminal charges against the governor, attorney general, and other law enforcement officials who had been implicated in conspiracies involving theft of services, misconduct in public office, and obstruction of justice. A special prosecutor was appointed by the

See HOW on Next Page

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HOW

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court to handle these cases after it was determined that the entire Office of the Attorney General was conflicted out. The conflict stemmed from the use of OAG resources and personnel to provide legal defense to the public officials accused of crimes. Ultimately, the governor, attorney general, deputy police commissioner, and ports police chief were convicted.

In the summer of 2013, I remember thinking that as citizens we had learned some hard lessons from the years before—how corruption hurts all of us, how it robs us of public resources, and erodes our trust and sense of security. We had seen, too, how complacency feeds corruption, and

what a difference courage can make in changing course. Perhaps, I thought, after what we had just been through, a new era of sunlight in our government could begin.

So what happened instead in the months and years that followed was dismaying for me to read about from afar—and even more so, I am sure, for the people at home who continued the good fight to hold our leaders accountable for their actions.

For example, in late 2013, according to media reports, several of our elected officials went on casino “fact-finding” trips to Hong Kong and Macau that were arranged and funded by prospective casino investors. These government officials returned to the Marianas and were instrumental in the fast-tracking of casino legalization on Saipan. They

did so within a few months of their trips, without a public hearing or committee report, and despite previous votes by the people of Saipan against casino gaming in their district.

A taxpayer lawsuit eventually compelled these officials to admit they had violated the Open Government Act in passing the Saipan casino law the way they had. But after the lawsuit was settled, casino gambling on Saipan moved forward. The exclusive casino license was issued, a “live training facility” was established, the CSR machine rolled out into our villages, and the construction of a new casino resort began in Garapan.

Today, the casino’s footprint is everywhere—impacting our environment, our cultural resources, our workforce,

See HOW on Next Page



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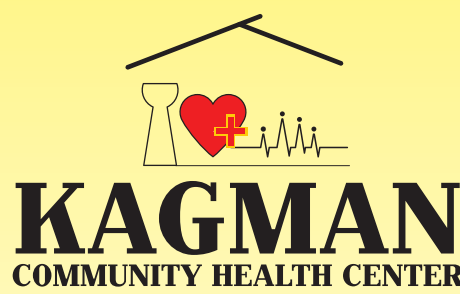
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Bertha Camacho, NP is a certified nurse practitioner and is the Center’s main women’s health provider. Ms. Camacho provides services such as well women checks, prenatal and postpartum care, gynecological problem management, physical exams, and STD screening and treatment.



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Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Love and respect for our elders

Islanders have long held a cultural belief in the value of an extended family structure woven tightly in and around an unconditional love and respect for our elders. Our “local” sense of family is deeply rooted in a kind of obligation to assist one another and to take into account the needs and wishes of the family when making decisions. Some of that obligation can include domestic work, childcare, sending money home, going home,

donating to family events such as funerals, helping our relatives, putting people up in our homes and, above all, respecting and caring for our elders.

Sadly, I see more and more that the extended family structure has deteriorated and in many cases no longer exists in our local community due in great part to outside influences particularly an ever-growing dependence on money. For the most part, people can barely afford to care for their most

immediate family members and so more and more the nuclear family style is becoming the norm.

For us Advocates at the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. also known as NMPASI the most stark and sad example of this cultural deterioration comes from witnessing the neglect and sometimes abuse of the elderly and other people with disabilities (more often than not by members of their

own family).

So what is elder abuse?

Basically, elder abuse is any form of mistreatment that results in harm or loss to an older person. It is generally divided into the following categories:

■ Physical abuse is physical force that results in bodily injury, pain, or impairment. It includes assault, battery, and inappropriate restraint.

■ Sexual abuse is non-consensual sexual contact of any kind with an older person.

■ Domestic violence is an escalating pattern of violence by an intimate partner where the violence is used to exercise power and control.

■ Psychological abuse is the willful infliction of mental or emotional anguish by threat, humiliation, or other verbal or nonverbal conduct.

■ Financial abuse is the illegal or improper use of an older person's funds, property, or resources.

■ Neglect is the failure of a caregiver to fulfill his or her care giving responsibilities.

■ Self-neglect is failure to provide for one's own essential needs.

How big a problem is it?

Although estimates vary, it is generally believed that 4-6 percent of the elderly are abused.

According to the National Incidence Study on Elder Abuse, approximately 450,000 elderly experienced abuse in 1996 nationwide. If self-neglect is included, the number is 551,000.

How serious a problem is it?

The personal losses associated with abuse can be devastating and include the loss of independence, homes, life savings, health, dignity, and security.

Victims of abuse have been shown to have shorter expectancies than non-

abused older people.

Are there local resources to assist with the matter of elder abuse?

Locally, NMPASI and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs through the Manamko Center have entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) wherein NMPASI will receive approximately \$12,000 per year to supplement its efforts to investigate potential cases of elder neglect and abuse. Additionally, NMPASI will provide information and referral services to proper authorities as needed.

What to do if you suspect elderly abuse?

To report elder abuse, you should contact the Department of Public Safety (DPS) or as alternatives you can also inform NMPASI and Manamko Center staff.

Should you want further information on Elderly Abuse or any other disability related information you can contact NMPASI at (670) 235-7273 or (670) 235-7274 and via the Internet at www.nmpasi.org.

Elsie S. Tilipao
NMPASI client advocate

HOW

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our economy, our media, our elections, our government, our families, even our volunteerism. Most of the officials who made this possible were reelected in 2014. To date, neither the Public Auditor nor the Attorney General has publicly addressed the potential legal and ethical violations associated with the “fact-finding” trips and the conduct that followed.

Meanwhile, another taxpayer lawsuit has been filed against the lieutenant governor and secretary of Finance, accusing them of misdirecting public funds for the private benefit of the lieutenant governor and his relatives. The defense of the lieutenant governor, who was Senate president and chair of the Rota Delegation at the time when he sponsored and voted for the resolution authorizing the diversion of \$400,000 to his family's company, is that he has legislative immunity and cannot be sued for his actions as senator.

The defense of the secretary of Finance is that she was following the orders of the former, now-deceased governor. Also, she says, she is not a lawyer, and any unlawful results of her actions are the product of “reasonable mistake.”

But rather than pursuing the return of misspent and unaccounted-for public funds, or prosecuting alleged violations of law, the Office of the Attor-

ney General is providing legal defense. We traveled a similar road just a few years ago.

If there is one lesson to be learned from the past few years, it is that our work is not done when a few individuals are convicted of wrongdoing or otherwise held responsible for their misdeeds. Building a better community is an ongoing project that requires all of us to be involved. We owe a debt of thanks to the public-spirited citizens and attorneys who file taxpayer lawsuits to uphold the rule of law when other institutions have faltered, and to demand accountability of the people we entrust to serve in office. We should all demand such accountability, and encourage each other to speak freely and exercise our rights as citizens of this community.

We should give our support, as well, to the government leaders and employees who strive every day to do their jobs, follow the law, and honor the public trust. When government officials make reasonable mistakes, they should do everything in their power to correct them. And when they abuse the public trust, they should face the consequences of justice: the rule of law must be restored.

The Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Public Auditor play a critical role in maintaining the rule of law and the integrity of our government. But they cannot do this alone, and they, too,

See HOW on Next Page

Car crashes are a leading cause of death for children 1 to 13 years old. Many times deaths and injuries can be prevented by proper use of car seats, boosters, and seat belts.

Child Passenger Safety Week

September 18 - 24, 2016

There are many car seat choices on the market. Use the information below to help you choose the type of car seat that best meets your child's needs.

Select a car seat based on your child's age and size, choose a seat that fits in your vehicle, and use it every time.

Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions (check height and weight limits) and read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or lower anchors and a tether, if available.

To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.

Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.

**REAR-FACING CAR SEAT****Birth – 12 Months**

Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats:

- Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing.
- Convertible and All-in-one car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.

1 – 3 Years

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.

**FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT****1 – 3 Years**

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.

4 – 7 Years

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.

**BOOSTER SEAT****4 – 7 Years**

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.

8 – 12 Years

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.

**SEAT BELT****8 – 12 Years**

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.

**AGE (YEARS)**

Birth	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13+
Rear-Facing Car Seat													
Forward-Facing Car Seat													
Booster Seat													
Seat Belt													

National Seat Check Saturday Courtesy Car Seat Inspection

September 24, 2016 • 8:00am - 12 noon • Marianas Business Plaza

Car Seat Inspection Stations are located at:

DPS-Highway Safety Office • DPS Traffic Section • Garapan Fire Station • Kobleville Fire Station
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Did Duterte really swear at Obama?

Since no Filipino has come out to criticize the English translation of the Filipino phrase "putang ina," made by the media, I am volunteering to do so.

The said phrase was uttered by Philippine President Duterte and was translated by the media to mean "son of a bitch" causing President Obama to cancel his official meeting with Duterte. Even Joseph Connolly, who probably does not know a thing about the Filipino language, blindly and ignorantly echoes the same translation in his poem published in this newspaper on Sept. 14.

The phrase "putang ina" is literally translated as "bitch of the mother," which does not make any sense. But the gen-

esis of the phrase used to be "puta na ina," which translates as "the mother is a bitch" or "the bitch is the mother."

The phrase is normally used as an interjection showing the speaker's determination to do what he says he wants to do. In the case of Duterte, he was using the interjection to show that he was strongly determined to reject any discussion with Obama with respect to his policy of extra judicial killings in his country.

The phrase being correctly translated, Duterte is correct in saying that he did not say that Obama was "son of a bitch."

Reynaldo O. Yana
Saipan

HOW

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must be accountable to the people. Citizens, for our part, must hold them accountable, raise concerns and press for action, and educate each other about the ethical rules that bind us all.

Since completing my education and returning home, I have been exploring ideas with others about how to contribute to this project of a better community, and a stronger civic life. One idea is to form a think tank that is dedicated to public accountability and civic engagement. Another is to create an interactive, experiential "civics academy" for young people to strengthen their capacity for ethical citizenship and problem-solving.

The idea for the civics academy came about a few months ago, after I took my goddaughter and niece, both 11 years old, to visit the casino facility. They had never been there before, and were curious to see it for themselves. While observing the casino operations, the three of us shared a thoughtful conversation about the history of the Saipan casino law, and the impacts of gambling on our families. And we explored their concerns and questions about what this casino development might mean for their future.

I learned so much from these two young citizens that day. They were worried about the future as much as I was, if not more so—but they also believed they could do something about it. They were full of hope. And they renewed my own sense of hope because I could see the future that was possible in the hands of children like them who already cared so deeply

about our islands.

There remains much work to do to improve accountability and public trust in our government—for our own sake, and for the sake of our children. I truly believe it is a sacred duty for all of us to strive to pass on to the next generation a world that is better than the one we inherited. Related to that is a duty to do all we can to provide the next generation with the tools they will need to solve the problems they will inherit from us.

There are many ways we can each do our part to help build a better community. A civics academy might be one way. A think tank might be another. I am open to ideas. I am also looking for partners.

For questions, suggestions, or conversation I can be reached at 285-3935 or tinasablan@gmail.com.

Tina Sablan
Via email

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy birthday Davin! You're growing up to be a bright kid that'll make a positive difference in the world. Continue to strive for the best. We love you so much! Greeting from Teisha, Davi, Mom, brothers, and grandma.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy 10th birthday to my godson Javin Trent. God bless you with many more years to come son! Keep up the great job with school and know that we love you so much! Greetings from your family.

The Marianas Visitors Authority presents the 2nd Annual International Festival of Cultures

SATURDAY
5-10 p.m.

Parade of Cultures
5:00 p.m., Beach Rd.

Celebrating the cultural diversity of the Northern Mariana Islands!

September 24, 2016
5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Paseo de Marianas, Garapan, Saipan.

ENTERTAINMENT

- 6:00 p.m. Chinese Community
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- 7:00 p.m. Korean Community
- 7:15 p.m. Chuukese Community
- 7:30 p.m. Filipino Community
- 8:00 p.m. Hawaiian Community
- 8:45 p.m. Bangladeshi Community
- 9:00 p.m. Tahiti/Marquesas/Cook Is. Community
- 9:15 p.m. Samoa/Tonga/Fiji Community
- 9:30 p.m. Chamorro Community
- 9:45 p.m. Carolinian Community

Hands-on activities will be featured at cultural booths throughout the evening.



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For more information contact Ryan Calvo at 664-3200/01 or rcalvo@mymarianas.com

GOP FRIENDSHIP Golf Tournament

\$10,000 Hole-in One Prize

Venue : Marianas Country Club
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Registration : 8:00 a.m.
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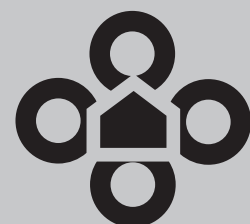
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The doors of the NMIS-PSS Early Head Start will officially open Monday, Sept. 26.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Some of the tables and play sets at the NMIS-PSS Early Head Start.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The lockers and bulletin board at the NMIS-PSS Early Head Start.

September is Infant Awareness Month

The death of a baby before his or her first birthday is called Infant Mortality.

The loss of a baby remains a sad reality for many parents and takes a serious toll on the health and well-being of families.

Most of these babies die as a result of:

- Birth defects
- Maternal complications of pregnancy
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)
- Injuries (e.g., suffocation)

Fortunately, there are steps many of us can do that may help reduce Infant Mortality. Steps include:

- Taking folic acid
- Getting regular physical activity
- Getting early and ongoing prenatal care starting in the first trimester
- Adopting safe sleeping practices for your baby such as putting him or her to sleep on his or her back and alone in a CRIB or PACK-N-PLAY.



For more information on Infant Mortality Rates for the CNMI or steps you can take to help prevent Infant Mortality, please call the Maternal & Child Health Bureau at 236-8715



This ad has been brought to you by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau – H.O.M.E. Visiting Program funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

NMIS-PSS Early Head Start to open Monday

Northern Marianas International School and the Public School System Early Head Start will officially open on Monday, Sept. 26, 2016. A total of 16 children were selected coming from low-income families on Saipan.

The Partnership Agreement between the CNMI Public School System Early Head Start and Northern Marianas International School was signed last April 15, 2016 held at NMIS lobby. It was attended by the high ranking officials of PSS headed by then Education commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan and the associates, PSS board chair Herman T. Guerrero, DCCA Secretary Robert Hunter, CCDF Program administrator Maribel Lose, and NMIS board of directors headed by the school president Erick Van Der Maas and witnessed by the students, teachers, staff, and administrators.

NMIS is the only private school in the CNMI granted this historic partnership. "We would like to thank the CNMI Public School System most especially the Early Head Start Team for the opportunity to be part of this historic event," said vice principal Jener A. Pineda. "NMIS is very committed in providing high quality child care services to the community."

The Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships are intended to increase access to coordinated comprehensive services for low-income children and families. It also increases the capacity of child care providers serving low income families with infants and toddlers, and fosters strong partnerships that in turn can strengthen the local early childhood system and services.

There was a parent orientation scheduled last night at the NMIS-Early Head Start facility, while today, Sept. 23, is set for the transition period. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mariana Resort & Spa GM Gloria Cavanagh, center, donates cash and gift certificates on Aug. 19, 2016, at Mariana Resort to Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation for the CNMI Next Top Chef competition slated for Nov. 2, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DFS president Marian Aldan-Pierce, fourth left, donates \$1,000 on Sept. 16, 2016, at T Galleria to Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation for the CNMI Top Chef competition.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Triple J Saipan Inc. donates \$1,000 on Aug. 19, 2016, at their corporate office in Susupe, Saipan, to Empty Vessel Ministry for the CNMI Next Top Chef competition, slated for Nov. 2, 2016.

CNMI Next Top Chef rescheduled on Nov. 2

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and charitable organization Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation have announced Nov. 2, 2016, as the rescheduled date for the CNMI Next Top Chef competition.

The competition will feature 12 chef teams in a "Chopped"-style competition live on-stage at the Royal Taga Ballroom of Saipan World Resort in three rounds: appetizers, main entrée, and dessert.

"We're very exciting to be partnering with Empty Vessel this year on this expanded Top Chef competition," said HANMI chair Gloria Cavanaugh. "The new date allows more time for the committee to prepare an exciting event, and further details will be announced in the coming weeks. We know it's going to be a great event for a very good cause."

Individuals who support Empty Vessel by purchasing a ticket will be able to attend the live competition, sample 20 diverse hors d'oeuvres prepared by HANMI-member hotels, and participate in wine-tasting and a large raffle drawing. Tickets are \$35/person, and ticket sales will be announced shortly.

"Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation appreciates HANMI members and partners in

presenting CNMI Next Top Chef competition," said EVM director Rose Smith. "EVM is privileged to have HANMI as a long-term partner to help support our annual event fundraiser. We are very grateful and thankful to Mrs. Gloria Cavanaugh, chairman of HANMI, for commitment and support for this great cause. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. And a special thank you to our sponsors."

Sponsors and supporters include: Best Sunshine, Bridge Capital, Triple J Saipan Inc., Mariana Resort & Spa, T Galleria, IT&E, *Saipan Tribune*, *Marianas Variety*, KKMP, Kagman High School, and Joeten Store-Susupe.

HANMI member hotels are currently registering their chef teams, and the public is welcome to register for any vacant slots on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications are available from Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation at emptyvesselministry@gmail.com or at their office on Middle Rd., Gualo Rai. The registration cost is \$50.

Corporations and individuals interested in donating to the event may contact EVM at 235-2340 or 287-0426. All proceeds will benefit Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation. (PR)

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UOG TRiO director receives highest award from Nat'l Education Council



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Yoichi Rengiil, left, stands with the Council for Opportunity in Education board chair Trent Ball during the 35th Annual Conference College Access and Success-Making Equity and Inclusion Real held in San Diego, California held from Aug. 31 to Sept. 3.

Earlier this month, University of Guam TRiO Programs director Yoichi Rengiil received the Walter O. Mason Jr. Award—the highest and most prestigious award given to a TRiO professional—by the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE).

Rengiil is the first TRiO director from the region to receive such an honor. The award is presented to honor outstanding educational opportunity professionals who exemplify a sense of leadership and ideals of the late Walter O. Mason, Jr., a special assistant to the president at the University of Oklahoma.

Over the decades, Rengiil has helped expand the University's TRiO programs from solely the Student Support Service to include Upward Bound and Educational Talent

Search. He has also helped secure millions of dollars in external funding for the University to serve low-income, first generation college students and students with disabilities.

“Yoichi is a strong long-time advocate for student success,” said senior vice president of Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez. “His admirable dedicated efforts over the last 30 years to our TRiO programs has provided successful pathways to better access and college completion for many of our underserved students in Guam and the region.”

About TRiO Programs

TRiO is a 100 percent federally funded, nationwide, non-profit program designed to assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds, who

are first-generation college bound and/or who are from low-income households, complete secondary education and continue to pursue and complete post-secondary education. TRiO Programs are comprised of three educational opportunity outreach programs: Educational Talent Search, Upward Bound, and Student Support Services.

UOG TRiO's mission is to motivate and assist economically and educationally disadvantaged students from our community and Micronesia, to ensure their progress through the academic pipeline, from middle school through post-secondary programs, and to increase college retention and graduation rates of the target population. For more information about UOG TRiO programs, call 735-2246. (PR)

Power outage along Beach Road Garapan tomorrow

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there will be a scheduled power interruption tomorrow, Sept. 24, from 7:30am to 12:30pm.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to allow the CUC line crew to safely relocate one (1) primary power pole and install two(2) primary power poles in Garapan along Beach Road. This is part of the

system maintenance work being performed throughout the island.

Areas to be affected: Feed-er 2 (partial of 2nd partial):

Beach Road (Tony Romas South to Bank Pacific), Orchid St., Hibiscus St., Rose St., Bougainville Av., Dra-caena St., Oleander St., Dama Di Noche St., Mapola St., and Kadena Di Amor St.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed,

we ask travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas.

CUC apologizes for any inconvenience resulting from this power service interruption.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). (PR)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CAR RENTAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-13.**

One (1) original and four (4) copies of the sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, on or before **2:00 PM, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2016**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of the construction of a new car rental building roof repairs and miscellaneous improvements, all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being funded by Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages shall be imposed in the amount of **SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$600.00)** per day if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Saipan Airport Conference Room, Commonwealth Ports Authority Office, Saipan at **10:00 am, September 30, 2016**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference. All perspective bidders are required to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, seven (7) days prior to the date designated above for the bid opening.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are encouraged to use the CD bid schedule form. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the “Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause”, a “Certification of Non-segregated Facilities”, and the “Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation”, as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **five percent (5%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Acting Executive Director

Date: September 3, 2016

Morrison proposes long-term solution to fund road repairs

GUAM—Among the concerns raised by residents during public hearings held these past several days regarding future development in southern Guam is the condition of Guam's roadways. Regardless of where they stand on the issue of economic growth in Guam's historic southern villages, residents spoke about the need to fix major roadways and village streets.

According to information provided by the Department of Public Works (DPW), the agency will need \$14 million to address just the top three road projects in all 19 villages. The total cost to repair many of our roadways according to the latest Village Streets Master Plan is estimated at \$746 million. Proposed improvements include: paving, pavement repair, drainage, utilities,

street extension/widening, lighting, and traffic safety.

Senator Tommy Morrison recently introduced Bill No. 372-33 (COR) "to energize conversations moving forward that will help identify a long-term solution to improve Guam's roads." The measure proposes to require the legislature, through the annual budget process, to set aside no less than one percent of General Fund revenues to fund road repairs.

During the previous budget cycle, DPW stated publicly that it received \$2 million worth of new heavy equipment including dump trucks, excavators, and backhoes to help fix village roads and address other issues. And, the agency planned to hire additional personnel to help address various concerns raised

by village mayors.

In recent meetings with DPW officials, Senator Morrison was informed that the agency completed a number of small projects such as Chalan Lamasu in Dededo, Roy Damian St. in Toto, and pothole repairs in parts of Malojloj using existing personnel and resources. DPW estimates that with additional funds, it can build and/or repair 2-lane roads at a cost of approximately \$150,000-\$180,000 for every half a mile. Most, if not all of the funds, will be used to purchase asphalt material. Of the estimated \$12 million DPW receives annually from the Guam Highway Fund, only \$5 million is committed for highway maintenance—



Morrison

as funds are shared for other needs such as bus operations, transportation maintenance, and fuel for bus operations. And of the \$5 million annual budget for road repairs, only \$1 million is available for asphalt and other construction materials.

"With many potholes fixed and roads resurfaced since Governor Calvo's Pothole Repair Program was announced in 2014, we still have much more work to be done. If Bill No. 372-33 (COR) is passed, and if we use the FY 2017 Budget Act as an example, approximately \$8.4 million in General Fund revenues would be prioritized specifically to purchase asphalt and other materials for up to 23 miles in

road repair projects within a single year," continued Senator Morrison.

"In addition to the approximately \$15 million Guam receives in federal funding for routed roads, imagine how many more potholes we can fix and uneven and damaged roads we can resurface across our island if just a portion of the government's budget can be set aside, every year, specifically for DPW to purchase asphalt and other required construction materials and supplies. Clearly, having only \$1 million, annually, for asphalt makes it difficult for the hardworking staff of DPW to address various road projects as quickly as we'd like. If we seriously focus on road repairs just as we continue to prioritize tax refunds and the

needs of education, health, and public safety—then we can truly begin to chip away at the nearly \$1 billion worth of road projects that must be addressed."

"From the safe transportation of our children to and from school, the ability of first responders to quickly and safely respond to emergencies, tourism and economic development—to the sharing of our roadways among motorists, cyclists, pedestrians, etc., roads affect nearly every aspect of our lives. Moving forward, I urge my colleagues to prioritize road repairs," concluded Senator Morrison.

For additional information regarding this Press Release, please contact Senator Morrison's Office at 478-8669 or send an e-mail to tommy@senatormorrison.com. (PR)

Castaway Island Fiji to participate in gender sensitivity training

Castaway Island Fiji Resort in the Mamanuca Islands Group is the first corporate organization in the country to participate in training by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre (FWCC) to help its key male workers understand the issues of gender, violence against women, human rights and the role of men in eliminating gender-based violence.

Ten of the resort's male workers, including the general manager and human resources manager, successfully completed a three-day male advocacy for women's human rights training.

The training was facilitated at the resort by FWCC coordinator Shamima Ali and counselor-advocate Lavenia Tuitabu.

Castaway Island Fiji Resort general manager Steven Andrews said they were prompted to participate in the

training after reading about the spate of cases involving violence against women over the past few months in Fiji.

"The training has really opened our eyes to the experiences of women and we realize we should not just see women as our cleaners and people who look after the children and cook, but as equals in everything we do," Mr Andrews said.

"The training has greatly helped us to understand women better and also recognize our own roles as men in helping eliminate violence against women."

The men who underwent training will also play a lead role in their own villages and communities to promote the elimination of violence against women and girls.

Ali said, "There's a recognition that discrimination and violence against women has

a huge impact on women's productivity and none more so than in the hospitality industry, which projects an image of happiness through the 'bula' smile. However many times for women, behind that smile is a host of ongoing violence, trauma and abuse."

Ali said that Castaway Island Fiji Resort's management and staff need to be commended for recognizing the importance of this training.

"When companies recognize the importance of understanding an issue such as violence against women, training workshops like this have more of an impact. Castaway has set an example for other tourism and corporate organizations," said Ali.

Castaway Island was badly hit by Cyclone Winston in February but re-opened on June 1, this year. (PR)



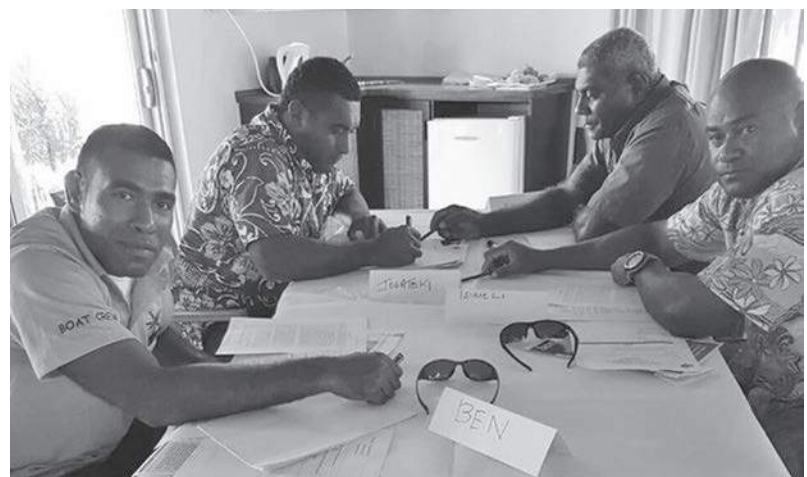
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The group of 10 male staff of Castaway Fiji who underwent gender sensitization training with FWCC coordinator Shamima Ali (seated right) and Lavenia Tuitabu (standing).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FWCC coordinator Shamima Ali (second from right), counselor-advocate Lavenia Tuitabu, Castaway Island Fiji Resort general manager Steven Andrews (right) and human resources manager Biu Waqaniburotu.



Castaway Island Fiji Resort male staff doing group activities during the Male Advocacy for Women's Human Rights workshop.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School's 2016 celebration of Cultural Diversity Day featured Carolinian culture with a traditional dance.



NOTICE OF MEETING

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2016
Time: 9:00a.m.
Place: BOR Conference Room
Saipan Campus

AGENDA

- I. Call Meeting to Order (9:00a.m – 9:30a.m)**
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
 - c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
 1. August 31, 2016 – Regular meeting
 2. September 16, 2016 – Special meeting
- II. Public Comment Period:** Individuals may orally testify on items on the agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes. **(9:30a.m – 9:40a.m)**
- III. Chairperson's Report (9:40a.m – 9:45a.m)**
- IV. Reports and Action from Standing Committees (9:45a.m – 10:30a.m)**
 - a. Fiscal and Finance Committee Report
 - b. Program Committee Report
 - c. Personnel Committee Report
 - d. Audit Committee Report
 - e. Nominating Committee Report
- V. Old Business (10:30a.m-11:30a.m)**
 - a. Draft Revision of Policy 6000: Compensation and Classification
 - b. Presidential Search Update
- VI. New Business (11:30a.m- 1:30p.m)**
 - a. FY2017 OPS Budget
 - b. Draft Revision of Policy 1017: Conflict of Interest
- VII. NMC Executive Reports (1:30p.m – 2:30p.m)**
 - a. President's Report
 1. WASC Accreditation update
- VIII. Legislative Updates (2:30p.m-3:00p.m)**
- IX. Board Meeting Assessment (3:00p.m – 3:15p.m)**
- X. Miscellaneous Items**
- XI. Executive Session** (At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)
 - a. Legal Matters
 - b. Personnel Matters
- XII. Upcoming Board Activities (3:15p.m – 3:30p.m)**
 - a. Upcoming Events / Activities
 - b. Suggested 2016 Regular Meeting BOR Dates
- XIII. Adjournment (3:30p.m)**

/s/ Frank M. Rabauliman
BOR Chairperson

Date: September 27, 2016



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



This is to inform our customers that the
CUC Customer Center hours of operation are:

**Monday through Friday
7:30 am to 5:00 pm.**

**CUC will be closed on
Saturdays and legal holidays.**

For your convenience, payments can be made online at www.cucgov.org or at Bank of Guam, Bank of Saipan or Bank of Hawaii or you can pay by phone by calling our toll free number 1-855-729-2282 (1-855-PAY-2CUC).

Please note that payments transacted at any of the listed banks will be accepted up to one week (7 days) after your bill due date.

**For further inquiry, you may reach us at (670) 664-4282.
We appreciate your business.**

CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
Joeten Dandan Building • P. O. Box 501220 • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
**NORTHERN MARIANAS
HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>



NOTICE TO NMHC'S HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS RECIPIENTS

According to Article 12(A)(ii) of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's (NMHC) By-Laws, one (1) board member out of the eight (8) total board of directors must be a recipient of one of the housing assistance programs administered by NMHC. If you are a recipient of HUD's Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8), New Construction Program (multifamily under Mihaville or Koblerville), HOME Program, or Neighborhood Stabilization Program and are interested in serving as a board member to assist and guide NMHC in the administration of its housing and community development mandates, please submit a notice of intent along with your background information on or before Friday, September 30, 2016, at NMHC's office in Garapan, Saipan. The NMHC Board of Directors will then select the board member to serve a one (1) year term.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, or Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director.

MCS starts preparations for Cultural Diversity Day

Although CNMI Cultural Diversity Day is weeks away, Mount Carmel School has begun preparing for the event by planning numerous events to commemorate the occasion.

Set for Oct. 7, the day will kick off with a parade showcasing the various cultures of the student body: K-4: Jamaica, K-5: Thailand, 1st: USA, 2nd: China, 3rd: France, 4th: Philippines, 5th: Germany, 6th: FSM, 7th: India, 8th: Japan, 9th: Russia, 10th: Mexico, 11th: CNMI, and 12th: Korea.

The parade will give students the opportunity to wear cultural attire, design banners, and even perform songs, dances, and skits. Later in the day, students will compete in field events and classrooms will host potluck lunches with a wide variety of cultural dishes.

In addition to these activities, the student council will

continue with contests it started last year, a class poster contest for grades K to 5, an individual poetry contest for grades 6 to 8, and an individual essay contest for grades 9 to 12.

For student council president, Zeno Deleon Guerrero, it is important to celebrate the school's and the islands' diversity. As he put it, "Students are really excited because we mixed things up a bit this year, especially since they get to represent new cultures that we haven't represented below."

Coming off the success of the ceremonies for the 15th anniversary of 9/11, Deleon Guerrero also wanted to keep the student body engaged with their community. He added, "We are part of the community so we need to stay in touch with that community, which is part of our bigger island family." (PR)

Humanities 4th quarter grant deadline next week

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council's fourth quarter grant deadline is on Friday, Sept. 30, 4pm.

The council supports a wide range of humanities projects consistent with the goals and objectives of its Strategic Master Plan and awards competitive matching grants to any non-profit organization, institution, group or ad hoc committee.

The council's Strategic Master Plan covers a five-year period from 2016 to 2020 and tackles current and long-range needs and challenges confronting the council. It aims to define the council's principal goals and objectives, which is establishing priorities for programs and activities, allowing the Council to carry out its program and activities in an efficient and organized fashion.

Grant applications may be delivered to the council office at Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai or e-mailed to northernmariashumanities@gmail.com. Grant applications will not be considered officially received until they have been certified complete by staff.

Applications submitted after the deadline will be considered during the next review cycle.

The council meets for regular sessions in January, April, July, and October each year and during each meeting, pending applications for community grants are looked at and decisions are made whether to fund or not fund particular applications.

For more information about the council's grant program, visit their website at www.northernmariashumanities.org or call 235-4785. (PR)

Meeting with FSM consul general this Sunday

There will be a meeting with the Federated States of Micronesia consul general this Sunday, Sept. 25, 1pm at the

Carolinian Utt. FSM citizens living in the CNMI are requested to attend the important meeting. (PR)

UOG's Peterson recently featured in 5 publications

Over the course of the last year, Dr. John Peterson, vice president of Graduate Studies, Research and Sponsored Programs at the University of Guam, co-authored and was published in four archeology books and journals—with one publication on the way.

Peterson, whose background and area of interest revolves around archeology, said these labors of love came about all at once—although it took the last four years to complete the research and effort put into each article.

“For any scholar, if they get a couple things published a year, that’s good,” Peterson said. “So to have five in a year’s time... I’m really grateful.”

Nearly every article touches on a different aspect of historical ecology—the relationship between culture and nature—in the Philippines and Pacific regions, which has been Peterson’s focus since the early 2000s. Others directly focus on the archeology of those regions in regards to colonialism and development.

Peterson said it’s not only common but also critical for executives and deans at UOG to engage in research because it elevates the profile of the University.

“Research is a critically important part of my job and the jobs of others here at UOG because it raises the visibility and profile of the University’s units and UOG as a whole,” he said. “UOG is taken more seriously when we’re more serious about the production of knowledge. It’s an important job for all of us. And it diminishes the University not to pro-

mote that.”

List of articles

From 2015 to 2016, Peterson was published in the following academic books and journals:

■ “Pacific islands on the brink of submergence: Rising seas in an age of climate changes,” *Water and Heritage*, 2015.

In this article, Peterson discusses the situation in Micronesia relative to climate change. Atolls in Micronesia submerged underwater thousands of years ago were made habitable with the changing of climate. Now, as sea levels continue to rise, the question is not if but when will rising tides cause more frequent and dense migrations away from the islands.

■ “Spanish Colonial History and Archeology in the Mariana Islands: Echoes from the Western Pacific,” *Archeologies of Modern Spanish Colonialism*, 2016.

Peterson and his colleague James M. Bayman discuss Spanish colonialism of the Mariana Islands with respect to political economy, food production, architecture, transport, gender relations, contemporary heritage and identity, and more.

■ “Did the Little Ice Age Contribute to the Emergence of Rice Terrace Farming in Ifugao, Philippines?” *National Museum of the Philippines Journal of Cultural Heritage*, 2015.

Peterson and his colleague Stephen B. Acabado explored



Peterson

whether climate change, in the form of the Little Ice Age, helped motivate people to move into the mountains of Ifugao, Philippines and develop rice terrace farming.

■ “Contesting modes of colonialism: The Southern Philippines in the global net of Asian, Islamic and European exchange and colonialism in the second millennium A.C.E.,” *Historical and Archeological Perspectives on Early Modern Colonialism in the Asia-Pacific*, 2015.

In this article, Peterson discusses how the southern Philippines became a hub of trade and interaction not only with Spanish colonizers but also Indian, Chinese, and Muslim foreigners and how each spread its own influences throughout the Philippines over the centuries.

■ “An archaeological survey of an underwater cave in Marigondon, Philippines,” *The Archaeology of Underwater Caves*, not yet published.

Peterson, along with his colleagues Andrea Jalandoni from the University of the Philippines Diliman, and Carmen Rocha from The University of Texas at El Paso, researched Marigondon Cave off Mactan Island, Cebu. Now submerged underwater, as early as 20,000 years ago, the Cave existed above water due to climate change and sea level recession, making it an attractive habitat for human settlement and now-extinct Pleistocene paleo-fauna. (PR)

University Theatre opens Fall 2016 season

The University Theatre opens its Fall 2016 Season with *Election Day* by Josh Tobiesen premiering on Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016 at 7pm in the UOG Fine Arts Theater.

Adam knows his overzealous girlfriend will never forgive him if he fails to vote. But when his sex-starved sister, an eco-terrorist, and a mayoral candidate willing to do anything for a vote all show up, Adam finds that

making that quick trip to the polls might be harder than he thought. This hilarious dark comedy explores the sometimes ugly truths about political and personal campaigns and features Molotov cocktails, handcuffs, and the occasional dismemberment.

Dates:

■ Sept. 29 at 7 p.m.
■ Sept. 30 at 9 a.m. matinee and 7 p.m.
■ Oct. 1 at 2 p.m. matinee

and 7 p.m.

■ Oct. 2 at 2 p.m. matinee
Note: Doors open 30 minutes before each performance.

Location: UOG Fine Arts Theatre

Admission:

General: \$10, students and seniors: \$7.50, UOG/GCC Students: Free with valid student ID or class schedule.

Tickets can be purchased at the box office on show nights. (PR)

UOG seeks submissions for storyboard journal

Storyboard: A Journal of Pacific Imagery is accepting submissions of previously unpublished work from the original writer or artist for Issue 16.

Storyboard publishes quality poetry, fiction, and non-fiction written in English or any other Pacific language (with translations into English), as well as visual art.

Storyboard is published by the Division of English and Applied Linguistics in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences of the University of Guam. The purpose of Storyboard is to foster and promote literary activity in the Pacific Islands.

Submissions from published and unpublished writ-

ers in or from the region, or writings about the region are welcome, with special encouragement to writers and artists from Micronesia. All submissions are due Dec. 2.

For more information and submission guidelines, visit www.uog.edu/storyboard or contact storyboard@triton.uog.edu. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

INVITATION TO BID

ITB16-GOV-180 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building (Office of the Governor)

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Office are soliciting sealed bids for supply and installation of typhoon shutters for the Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, also known as the Office the Governor on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available September 16, 2016 at the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A \$50.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 10:00 am ChST at the Governor's Office conference room in Capitol Hill, Saipan. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Leona DLG. Sablan in writing by e-mail: leona.cip@gmail.com, on or before October 7, 2016 to the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked *ITB16-GOV-180 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Honorable Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building*. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST October 17, 2016. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST October 17, 2016 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 17, 2016 and the bid documents must be received no later than October 26, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at 10:00 a.m. ChST October 27, 2016. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at 10:00 a.m. ChST October 17, 2016.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Government Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-023

ISLAND WIDE ROAD RESTORATION FOR WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders.

The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **September 26, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Robert Malate, CUC Water & Wastewater Engineer, via email - robert.malate@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S Administrative Support Assistant, via email - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Instagrammers share stunning Saipan, Tinian images

The Marianas Visitors Authority has conducted a second FAM(iliarization) tour for power Instagrammers from Korea, resulting in a stunning collection of photos and videos now making their way across the country and world.

The FAM tour was held with 14 Instagrammers on Aug. 31-Sept. 4, 2016, in co-operation with Jin Air and Kensington Hotel Saipan to draw attention to MVA's social media outlets in Korea, especially Instagram, and to generate online viral by working with renowned and popular Instagrammers.

"To keep the destination's image fresh for potential visi-



A night scene of newly-opened Kensington Hotel Saipan was captured on Sept. 2, 2016, by Instagrammers from Korea on a FAM tour organized aimed at discovering and sharing "Something New in Saipan!" to their followers. The FAM tour was jointly organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority, Kensington, and Jin Air.

tors, participants were encouraged to generate new creative content about the Northern

Marianas," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Their coverage

of new features on Saipan and Tinian—a new airline, a new hotel, a new restaurant—and other more familiar experiences has resulted in a number of amazing images shared by the participants via their own social media accounts during the tour. In addition, those photos and videos are also now available to the MVA for further marketing and promotional campaigns."

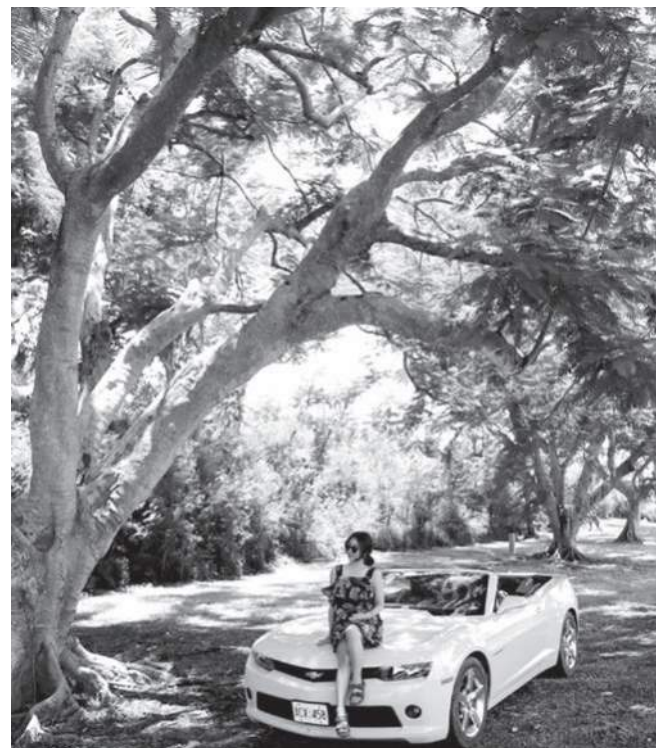
Featured activities included skydiving, aqua biking, shopping at DFS T Galleria, a sunset dinner cruise, a tour of Forbidden Island, and shooting at Mt. Tapochau, Aqua Resort Club, Paupau Beach, Ladder Beach, and Micro Beach. On Tinian, the group toured the Blow Hole, Broadway, House of Taga, Chulu Beach, Long Beach, Taga Beach, and other sites.

Dining at Bubba Gump's and barbeque at Kensington Hotel Saipan was also included. During their free time, the Instagrammers also generated original content, such as the night sky time and nightlife at Godfather's in downtown Garapan. Participants also shot with high quality 360-degree cameras Ricoh Theta S.

In support of the FAM tour, Jin Air provided discounted airfares, Kensington Hotel Saipan provided complimentary rooms, and Aqua Resort Club Saipan provided discounted rooms. (PR)



Popular Instagrammers from Korea capture a new perspective of the beach during a FAM tour organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority on Aug. 31-Sept. 4, 2016, on Saipan and Tinian.



Popular Instagrammers capture car rental and other scenes while on Saipan and Tinian on a FAM tour organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority from Aug. 31-Sept. 4, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

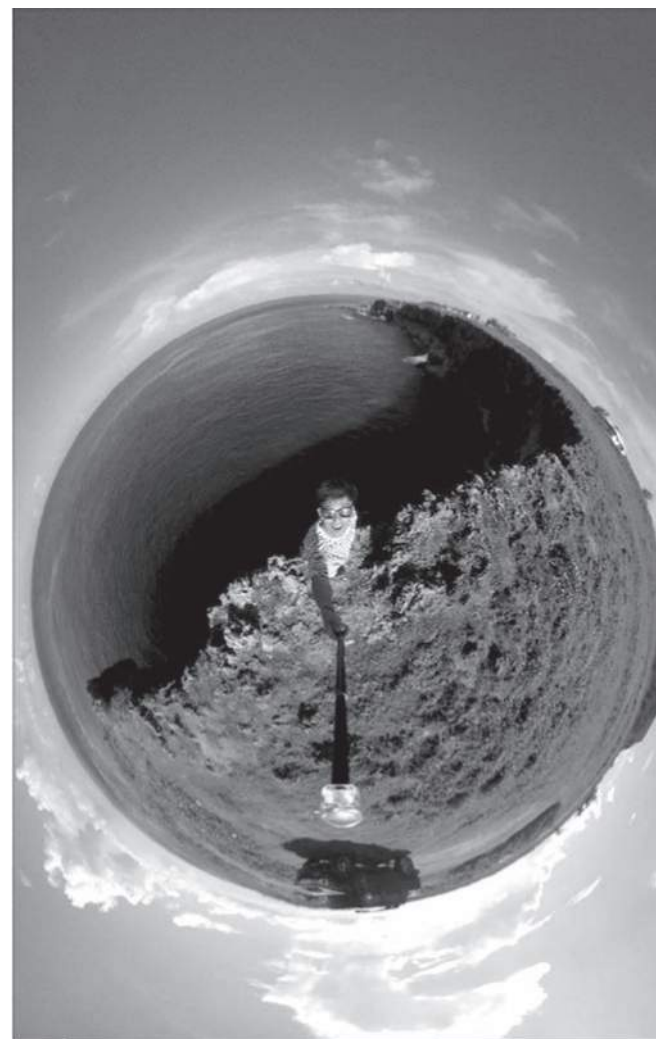
Fourteen popular Instagrammers from Korea toured Forbidden Island on Sept. 2, 2016, on a FAM(iliarization)tour organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority aimed at discovering and sharing "Something New in Saipan!"



ADVANCING CHILDCARE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Partner members of the Impact Project which is collaborative effort funded by a non-cash grant aimed at improving the quality of childcare services in the CNMI, recently met to discuss goals and objectives for the upcoming year. Standing from left: Tony Yarobwemal, CHCC Maternal and Child Health Care; Kim Means, CNMI Impact Project Technical Assistance Specialist; Ruth Sablan, WIC; Junnie Masga, DYS; Charlotte Cepeda, Northern Marianas College School of Education (Impact Project Co-Lead); Ana Santos, Childcare Licensing; and Yuline Cruz, CHCC Maternal and Child Health Care. Sitting from left: Maribel Loste, CCDF-DCCA (Impact Project Lead); Walter Macaranas, NAP; and Roselle Teregeyo, CCDF-DCCA. Not in picture: Heather Santos, CHCC HOME (Impact Project Co-lead), Program-MCHB; Vivian Sablan, DYS; Reselle Billy, LIHEAP; Yuline Fitia, HOME Visit; and Robert Hunter, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary.



Using a 360-degree panoramic camera, an Instagrammers from Korea captures an image of Banzai Cliff while on a FAM tour organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority on Aug. 31-Sept. 4, 2016.

Business

Promises unmet as Thailand tries to reform shrimp industry

SAMUT SAKHON, Thailand (AP)—Facing international pressure for failing to stop human trafficking in its seafood sector, Thailand promised almost a year ago to compensate victims of slavery and industry leaders vowed to bring all shrimp processing in-house.

That hasn't always happened. Instead, some formerly enslaved shrimp peelers have been deported. And some shrimp peeling sheds are being inspected and authorized to keep operating.

Tin Nyo Win, who escaped slavery and alerted police to abuses, was deported to Myanmar this month, along with his pregnant wife and a half-dozen others, after being held almost a year in a Thai government shelter. Authorities said that although the couple were victims of modern-day slavery, they had illegally entered

Thailand to begin with.

"They don't treat us like humans. They treat us like dogs," Tin Nyo Win said hours before Thai authorities took them away. "They just try to bully those of us who are victims already."

Nattamon Pumbhochar at the Thai foreign ministry said the couple never requested compensation and were deported in accordance with a memorandum of understanding Thailand has with Myanmar.

"They don't want any wages from their employer," he said. "They just want to return to their home."

Win denies this. He said he is broke, tried to get compensated, and would have actually appreciated a decent job processing seafood in Thailand.

The Associated Press also found that while some Thai companies that export shrimp to the U.S. have given formerly

entrapped workers better jobs in-house, others still use middlemen who employ laborers in remote, guarded warehouses. That's despite industry vows to end outside shrimp processing by the end of last year after human trafficking was exposed in the sheds.

Shed owners frequently break environmental, labor or safety laws. Seventy-five percent of the 109 inspected so far this year were cited for violations, and 24 were ordered to close.

Human-rights and media reports documenting abuse in Thailand's \$7 billion annual seafood export industry have brought international pressure. Last year, the AP reported on fishermen locked in a cage on the remote Indonesian island village of Benjina and traced their catch to Thailand, then on to the U.S., leading to more than 2,000 slaves being freed.

Mylan CEO defends EpiPen cost to angry lawmakers

WASHINGTON (AP)—Outraged Republican and Democratic lawmakers on Wednesday grilled the head of pharmaceutical company Mylan about the significant cost increase of its life-saving EpiPens and the profits for a company with sales in excess of \$11 billion.

Defending the company's business practices, Mylan CEO Heather Bresch told the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee that she wishes the company had "better anticipated the magnitude and acceleration" of the rising prices for some families.

"We never intended this," Bresch said, but maintained that her company doesn't

make much profit from each emergency allergy shot and signaled the company has no plans to lower prices.

The list price of EpiPens has grown to \$608 for a two-pack, an increase of more than 500 percent since 2007. Parents who rely on multiple EpiPens to respond when their children have allergic reactions, whether at home or at sporting events, have lashed out at Mylan in growing public outcry.

In nearly four hours of questioning, the soft-spoken CEO often seemed unsure, or declined to answer directly, when asked about the company's finances and profits, infuriating lawmakers.

"You could make this thing

go away by being honest and candid, but I don't think you are," House Oversight Chairman Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, told Bresch as he ended the hearing. Afterward, Chaffetz told reporters he thought Bresch created more problems with her vague testimony.

The frustration was bipartisan. Maryland Rep. Elijah Cummings, the top Democrat on the oversight panel, compared Bresch's answers to a game of "hide the ball."

Bresch found little sympathy in the room. In response to one question, Bresch acknowledged that she made \$18 million in salary last year.

"Sounds like you're doing pretty well on this," said Rep. John Mica, R-Fla.

S. Korea asks Samsung to extend Galaxy Note 7 refund

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's government asked Samsung Electronics to extend the refund period for its Galaxy Note 7 smartphones that have been subject to an unprecedented global recall.

The Korean Agency for Technology and Standards, the government agency responsible for product safety and recalls, has not approved Samsung's smartphone recall plan because its measures on how to remove Note 7s already in the market were inadequate, Nam Taek-joo, the agency official, said by phone Thursday.

The agency asked Samsung earlier this week to say how long it could extend the refund

period for consumers who missed Monday's deadline.

Nam said the agency made the request because "the plan to remove hazards in the markets is insufficient."

He said Samsung should come up with an alternative plan on how to better notify consumers that they can exchange their Note 7 or get a refund.

"We need more measures to actively inform consumers," he said. "It appears that consumers are not active in seeking an exchange or a refund."

Samsung Electronics did not answer emails seeking comment.

The Note 7 phone went on sale in South Korea on Aug. 19 to rave reviews, but fol-

lowing reports of the high-end phones catching fire Samsung stopped sales on Sept. 2 and recalled 2.5 million units.

The company cited a battery manufacturing error that caused the lithium battery to overheat or burn. It received 92 reports of the batteries overheating in the U.S. alone, including 26 reports of burns and 55 reports of property damage, including fires in cars and a garage.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued an official recall on Sept. 15. The commission website said consumers can get a refund or a new replacement device and it did not say if there is a deadline for getting a refund.

Nation

Charlotte under state of emergency in second night of violent protests

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Authorities in Charlotte tried to quell public anger Wednesday after a police officer shot a black man, but a dusk prayer vigil turned into a second night of violence, with police firing tear gas at angry protesters and a man being critically wounded by gunfire. North Carolina's governor declared a state of emergency in the city.

The man was not shot by police who had massed in riot gear to keep the marchers outside an upscale downtown hotel, Charlotte officials announced on Twitter. City officials originally announced the man was dead but later reversed that statement and said he was on life support.

The second night of violent protests added Charlotte to the list of U.S. cities that have erupted in violence over the death of a black man at the hands of police.

With officials refusing to



Police fire teargas as protestors converge on downtown following Tuesday's police shooting of Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte, N.C., Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016.

release any video of the Tuesday shooting of 43-year-old Keith Lamont Scott, anger built as two starkly different versions emerged: Police say Scott disregarded repeated demands to drop his gun, while neighborhood residents say he was holding a book, not a weapon, as he waited for his son to get off the school bus.

The killing inflamed racial

tensions in a city that seemed to have steered clear of the troubles that engulfed other places.

Gov. Pat McCrory announced late Wednesday he was accepting a request from Charlotte's police chief, declaring a state of emergency and calling in the National Guard and state troopers to help restore order and protect downtown.

2 potential bombing witnesses seen with suitcase are sought

NEW YORK (AP)—Investigators of last weekend's bombings have released an image of two men who took a suitcase they found on a city street, possibly without realizing a wired pressure cooker they removed from it and left behind could have blown them to bits.

Police investigating the bombings in New York and New Jersey have been saying for several days they were looking for the men, who they stressed were being sought as potential witnesses in the case, not as suspects.

"They're not in any jeopardy of being arrested," Jim Watters, chief of the New York Police Department's

counterterrorism unit, said on Wednesday. "We have no reason to believe they're connected."

Federal prosecutors have charged Ahmad Khan Rahami with detonating a pipe bomb in a New Jersey shore town on Saturday morning and a pressure cooker bomb in New York City's Chelsea neighborhood later that night. Thirty-one people were injured in the New York blast. A second pressure cooker bomb left in Manhattan didn't explode and is the subject of the latest public plea.

Prosecutors said surveillance video shows Rahami rolling a suitcase down the street, then abandoning it on

the sidewalk where that second device was found.

A few minutes later, two men pass by the luggage and appear to admire it, police said. They then remove a pressure cooker from the luggage, leave the pressure cooker on the sidewalk and walk away with the luggage.

"I think they were more interested in the bag, not what they were taking out," Watters said, adding that they were "very, very lucky" the bomb didn't explode.

In court papers, a public defender sought a court appearance for Rahami, an Afghan-born U.S. citizen, so he can hear the federal terrorism charges against him.

Chicago to hire hundreds more officers to combat violence

CHICAGO (AP)—Chicago's police department will add 970 new positions over the next two years, its superintendent announced Wednesday, saying the move will help combat the dramatic increase in shootings and homicides that has left thousands injured and hundreds dead this year.

But Mayor Rahm Emanuel didn't explain how the city, which is grappling with financial woes that threaten basic services, will pay for the hiring spree.

Superintendent Eddie Johnson said at a news conference that he asked for additional officers and Emanuel

"delivered." The plan, which will start in January 2017, is to add 516 new officers, 92 field-training officers, 200 detectives, 112 sergeants and 50 lieutenants. The changes will increase the number of sworn officers from about 12,500 to about 13,500; Johnson said vacancies will be filled on top of the new hires.

"I'm confident that these added resources will make us better," Johnson said. He also acknowledged CPD's issues and said accountability is key. "We'll train and mentor officers who make honest mistakes, but I will not tolerate intentional misconduct," he said.

Johnson said he did not

receive details from the mayor's office about how the city would pay for what his spokesman later said was the largest hiring effort since at least the 1990s, only that the mayor had assured him it could be done. But the city's budget office confirmed that the price tag for each first-year police officer, when salary, benefits and supervision are factored in, will cost the city \$138,000 a year—a figure that when multiplied by 970 adds up to close to \$134 million.

When asked about how the city would pay for it, Emanuel would only say that Chicago "will have the resources."

Asia

ASIAN BRIEFS

20 dead in floods, landslides on Indonesia's Java island

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Torrential rains triggered floods and landslides on the Indonesian island of Java, killing at least 20 villagers and leaving 14 others missing, an official said Wednesday. The worst-hit district was West Java's Garut, where 17 people were found dead and 14 others were missing after two rivers overflowed Tuesday night. The dead in

Garut included an 8-month-old baby and eight other children, the National Disaster Management Mitigation Agency said. Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said about 1,000 villagers were evacuated to army barracks and other temporary shelters. He said three villagers were killed in Sumedang district and one person was missing after landslides buried two houses and destroyed a mosque. About 100 villagers were evacuated.

MH370 Investigators

cast doubt on catastrophic fire evidence

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Accident investigators have cast doubt on the possibility that blackened debris found on Madagascar is evidence of a catastrophic fire aboard the missing Malaysian airliner. Wreckage hunter Blaine Gibson hand-delivered five pieces of debris last week to officials at the Australian Transport Safety Bureau who are searching for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370. The bu-

reau said in a statement Thursday that investigators had yet to determine whether the pieces were from the Boeing 777 that is thought to have plunged into the Indian Ocean southwest of Australia in 2014. But a preliminary examination found that two fiberglass-honeycomb pieces were not burnt, but had been discolored by a reaction in resin that had not been caused by exposure to fire or heat.

Taiwan protests exclusion from UN fisheries conference

fisheries conference

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan has protested its exclusion from a United Nations conference on the global fishing industry, allegedly at the behest of chief rival China. The official Central News Agency says the Foreign Ministry delivered a letter to the Food and Agricultural Organization protesting against what it called "discriminatory treatment" against two Taiwanese representatives who were barred from the organization's Committee on Fisheries meeting being held in Italy this week. It said China, which claims sovereignty over Taiwan, was behind their rejection. Taiwanese representatives had participated in the biennial conference since 2003 as experts or members of non-governmental organizations. China has been seen as tightening the diplomatic screws on Taiwan as a way of pressuring the island's new independence-leaning president.

Vietnam sentences 9 to death for heroin trafficking

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—A court in northern Vietnam has sentenced nine people to death for heroin trafficking. The state-run online newspaper Zing says ringleader Trang A Tang and eight other Vietnamese nationals were convicted of trafficking 626 kilograms (1,379 pounds) of heroin from Laos and Thailand into Vietnam between 2009 until the ring members were arrested in 2013. The People's Court in Bac Ninh province handed them death sentences Wednesday at the end of a four-day trial. Three others, including Tang's wife and father, were given life in prison on the same charges. Court officials were not immediately available for comment. Vietnam has some of the world's toughest drug laws, with the trading or trafficking of at least 100 grams of heroin punishable by death.

Pakistani Christian jailed for blasphemy over Facebook like

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistani police say they have arrested a 16-year-old Christian boy on blasphemy charges after he "liked" an "inappropriate" photograph on Facebook of the Kaaba in Mecca, one of the holiest sites in Islam. Senior police official Akhtar Ansari said Wednesday the arrest was made this week in Pakistan's eastern Punjab province. He says police have sent the boy to jail pending trial. Ansari says police made the arrest after being alerted of the Facebook post by a Mus-

lim, who said he found it insulting. Under Pakistan's blasphemy laws, anyone accused of insulting Islam can be sentenced to death. However the laws are also sometimes used to settle personal scores and target minorities. In 2015, Muslims beat a Christian couple to death and burned their bodies for allegedly desecrating the Quran.

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Soldiers search Kashmir frontier after 2 gunbattles end

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Indian soldiers on Wednesday searched areas near the de facto border dividing Kashmir between India and Pakistan where two gunbattles with suspected rebels raged for half a day, the Indian army said. Army spokesman Col. Rajesh Kalia said the clashes, which started midday Tuesday, ended late at night. He said two groups of militants had infiltrated into the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir from the Pakistani-held part near Uri region and Nowgam sector. One Indian soldier was killed in the fighting. The army did not say if there were any militant casualties. The clashes came three days after four suspected rebels killed 18 Indian soldiers in an audacious attack on a crucial military base in Uri. The militants also were killed. That attack escalated tensions between India and Pakistan and provoked calls for revenge, with New Delhi blaming Islamabad-backed militants for the deadly strike, an allegation Pakistan strongly denied.

In Celebration of Her New Life

† Emilia Pangelinan Palacios

Lovingly known as "Emilian Talu"

Born on August 16, 1934 and called to
Eternal Rest on September 17, 2016 at the age of 82.

In her new life, she now joins her

Parents: †Maria Reyes and †Jose Cabrera Pangelinan
Husband: †Alfonso Arriola Palacios, †Ricardo Salas Sablan
Son: †David P. Sablan
Brother: †Francisco R. Pangelinan
Parents In-law: †Lucia San Miguel Arriola and †Jose Muna Palacios
Sons In-law: †Dae Young (Daniel) Park, †Thomas Fujihira Ada, and †Joaquin Guillermo Adriano,
Brothers & Sisters In-law: †Jose Concepcion, †Juan Mafnas, †Maxima Dlc. Pangelinan, †Jose A. Palacios, †Miguel A. & †Pilar M. Palacios, †Maria T. Palacios

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her Children, Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren and Great-Great Grandchild

Jose P. & Vicenta Muna Sablan and Family, Antonio P. Sablan & Patricia Concepcion and Family, Consuelo P. & Gregorio Ch. Baza and Family, Marian Palacios & Alvin Ogo and Family, Barbara P. Ada and Family, Alexander P. Sablan & Cecilia Repeki and Family, Donald P. Palacios & Elizabeth Tebuteb and Family, Regina Pangelinan, Albert P. & Tricia Babauta Palacios and Family, Summer P. & Kelvin Babauta and Family

Sister and Brother

Victoria P. Concepcion and Family, Hilarion R. Pangelinan and Family

Sisters and Brothers In-law

Lolita Palacios and Family, Dolores P. Deleon Guerrero and Family, Ana P. & Francisco Sablan and Family, Children of †(Miguel A. & Pilar M. Palacios), Maria P. (Mako) & Estanislao (Yoshi) Fujihira and Family, Jesus P. & Leonora Palacios and Family, Carmen P. & Joey Dela Cerna and Family, Eleuterio A. & Erlinda Palacios and Family, Antonio A. & Congxiang Palacios and Family

Our dearly beloved Emilia will also be remembered by numerous, Uncles, Aunts, Nephews, Nieces, Cousins, and Friends.

Nightly Mass is being offered at San Antonio Church,
Monday to Saturday 6:00pm and on Sunday 9:00am.

On Monday, September 26, 2016 our dearly beloved will be escorted from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation at 7:30am to San Antonio Church where the Responso, Holy Rosary, Viewing, and the Mass for Christian Burial will be held. The Mass is set for 11:00a.m. She will then be escorted to the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Chalan Kanoa, where she will be laid to rest.

Please join us in prayer.
Thank you and Si Yu'us Maase

From the Family



World

US, Russia abandon diplomatic niceties in testy Syria debate

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The United States and Russia abandoned diplomatic niceties Wednesday in a fractious public debate over Syria, blaming each other for spoiling the country's cease-fire and offering only temporary patches to stem the bloodshed. Secretary of State John Kerry called for all warplanes to halt flights over aid routes, while Russia's chief diplomat spoke of a possible three-day pause in fighting.

In a U.N. Security Council session originally envisioned to enshrine Syria's Sept. 9 truce, world powers rued the possibility of a darker phase in the conflict amid increased attacks on humanitarian workers. The council's nations all

sought to revive the U.S.-Russian cease-fire deal, but once again illustrated why they've been unable for more than five years to stop Syria's civil war.

"Supposedly we all want the same goal. I've heard that again and again," a visibly angry Kerry told the council. "Everybody sits there and says we want a united Syria, secular, respecting the rights of all people, in which the people of Syria can choose their leadership. But we are proving woefully inadequate in our ability to be able to get to the table and have that conversation and make it happen."

While the U.S. and Russia have previously butted heads over several proposed resolutions critical of the Syr-

ian government, Wednesday's agenda didn't even include a suggested course of action. Instead, the two-hour discussion served as a warm-up act for a Thursday meeting blocks away in New York that will include Kerry, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and their counterparts from more than a dozen European and Arab countries.

Kerry blamed Russia, lambasting what he portrayed as a

cynical response to an airstrike on a humanitarian aid convoy this week that killed 20 civilians and raised "profound doubt" about Russia and Syria's willingness to abide by the cease-fire. The U.S. believes with very high degree of confidence that a Russian-piloted aircraft carried out the strike, said a senior American official, who wasn't authorized to speak publicly on the matter and demanded anonymity.

Russia has denied U.S. claims that it was responsible, but Kerry focused on its shifting explanation of what might have happened.

First, Kerry said, Russian President Vladimir Putin's press secretary described the attack as a "necessary response" to an alleged offensive by al-Qaida-linked militants elsewhere in the country. Then, a Russian ambassador said forces were

targeting another area.

Russia's Defense Ministry followed by saying the aid convoy was accompanied by militants in a pickup truck with a mortar, Kerry said, adding that no such evidence exists. Then, the ministry denied any Russian or Syrian involvement as its spokesman suggested, in Kerry's words, that "the food and the medicine just spontaneously combusted."

ON 2ND DAY OF UN DEBATE

World leaders rage against neighbors

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—World leaders from Pakistan to Ukraine unleashed their regional grievances Wednesday, taking the stage of the U.N. General Assembly to rage against their neighbors and presenting a picture of a chaotic world consumed by intractable conflicts.

A few paces from the General Assembly hall, the United States and Russia bitterly attacked each other during a Security Council meeting meant to salvage Syria's faltering cease-fire. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon implored Syria's warring parties to lay down their arms.

In the midst of the anger, a few bright spots emerged on the second day of the annual U.N. gathering of heads of states. Colombia basked in world praise when it presented its newly reached peace agreement with leftist rebels to the Security Council. Former political prisoner Aung San Suu Kyi made her first General Assembly speech since she formed a democratically elected government in Myanmar. But on the International Day of Peace, tensions from all parts of the planet filled the halls of the United Nations.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang voiced his country's mounting frustration with ally North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weapons, highlighting the urgency of reaching "a comprehensive political solution on the Korean nuclear issue."

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe devoted about half of his address to North Korea, which earlier this month conducted its fifth nuclear test in defiance of repeated Security Council resolutions intended to constrain its weapons de-

velopment.

Abe said North Korea this year fired three missiles into Japan's exclusive economic zone and it was a matter of luck that no ships or aircraft were damaged. He urged unity in the Security Council to confront the North Korean threat.

"We must concentrate our strengths and thwart North Korea's plans," Abe said.

Some of the angriest words came from the rivalries between Pakistan, Afghanistan and India.

Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif delivered a blistering attack on neighboring India while, across the world, gunbattles raged for a second day between Indian soldiers and suspected rebels in the disputed territory of Kashmir. Sharif demanded a U.N. investigation against "brutalities perpetrated by the Indian occupying forces," saying "innocent Kashmiri children, women and men" have been killed, blinded and injured.

Moments earlier, Pakistan came under attack from Afghanistan.

Vice President Sarwar Danesh said "merciless attacks from terrorist groups" against its civilians are being planned and organized on Pakistani territory. He said Afghanistan has repeatedly asked Pakistan to destroy known terrorist safe havens but there has been no change in the situation.

Sharif shot back that Pakistan has suffered from spillover of Afghanistan's internal conflicts for more than three decades and "progress will be assured only when the Afghan parties themselves conclude that there is no military solution to the Afghan war."

Death and Funeral Announcement

In Loving Memory of

Matilde Untalan Hofschneider

Born to Life on August 09, 1975

Called to Eternal Life at the age of 41 on September 17, 2016



She now joins her...

Parents: †Edward V. and †Marcela U. Hofschneider

God Mother: Mariana C. Cruz

Brother/Brother-in-law: †James Gregorio Untalan
†Joaquin Aldan Sanchez

Grand Parents: †Henry G. and †Anna V. Hofschneider
†Marcus A. and †Matilde S. Untalan
†Anastasia Ruwetinngin

Nephews: †John Jayson K. Untalan
†Jiovanni Jude P. Untalan

She is survived by her...

Brothers/Sisters:

Micheala U. Sanchez (Teresita, Marcella, Monica, Joaquin Jr., Mathilda, Jush, Tashia, Malissa and Jacklyn)

Jose/Liberty Untalan (Joseph Jr., Johanna, Johmar, Joebeth, Jobelly, Joel and Joelina)

Marcus Untalan/Lou Connie B. Manglona (Gavin, Desiree, Divina, Leilani, Marcus Jr., Moses, Venny, Ken, and Galyug)

†James/Lavian Untalan (Brian, James Jr., Jaimelina, Rebecca, and Jumica)

Anthony/Vina Hofschneider (Edward, Elmo, Eric, Elton, Edrick, and Elijah)

Henry Hofschneider/Bernadette Palacios (Pualani, Tatiana, Edu, Kiara, Anthony, and Melmalena)

Elena U. Maoile/Joseph Howard (Kealsidee)

Godfather: Ben Cruz (Ben Agaga)

Confirmation Godmother: Manuela A. Cing

Her remains will be arriving from Portland, Oregon on Monday, September 26, 2016 at 3:05pm. and will lie in state at Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel, Beach Road, Garapan. There will be public viewing and visitation from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on Monday evening. On Wednesday, September 28, 2016, her remains will be taken to Tinian, CNMI at 4:00pm.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, October 01, 2016. Viewing and visitation will commence at 12:00nn. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 2:00pm, followed by interment services at Tinian Public cemetery.

Thank you - Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Please join us in prayers,

The Family



Science & Technology

Zuckerberg, Chan pledge \$3B to end disease

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has a goal that's even more ambitious than connecting the entire world to the internet: He and his wife want to help eradicate all disease by the end of this century.

Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan are committing \$3 billion over the next 10 years to accelerate basic scientific research. That includes creating research tools—from software to hardware to yet-undiscovered techniques—they hope will ultimately lead to scientific breakthroughs, the way the microscope and DNA sequencing have in generations past.

The goal is to “cure, prevent or manage all disease” in the next 80 or so years, a timeframe the 30-something couple are unlikely to live to see. They acknowledge that this might sound crazy, but point to how far medicine and science have come in the last century—with vaccines, statins for heart disease, chemotherapy, and so on—following millennia with little progress.

At current rates of progress, Zuckerberg reckons, it will be possible to solve most of these problems “by the end of this century.” Zuckerberg and Chan have spent the past two years speaking to scientists and other experts to plan the endeavor. In an interview, Zuckerberg emphasized “that this isn't something where we just read a book and decided we're going to do.”

Through their philanthropic organization, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, the commitment includes \$600 million to fund a new research center in San Francisco where scientific and medical researchers will work alongside engineers on projects spanning years or even decades. The goal is not to focus narrowly on specific ailments, such as bone cancer or Parkinson's disease, but rather to do basic research. One example: a cell atlas that maps out all the different types of cells in the body, which could help researchers create various types of drugs.

Chan's work as a pediatrician seems to be a big driver in the couple's decision to take up this latest cause.

“I've been with families where we've hit the limit of what's possible through medicine and science,” Chan said. “I've had to tell families devastating diagnoses of leukemia, or that we just weren't able to resuscitate their child.”

The couple spoke with The Associated Press in their home in Palo Alto, California, where their infant daughter, Max, had just woken from a nap. Their dog, Beast, came by to sit briefly during the 25-minute interview.

Zuckerberg and Chan hope that their effort will inspire other far-reaching efforts and collaboration in science, medicine and engineering, so that basic research is no longer relegated to the margins.

“We spend 50 times more on health care treating people who are sick than we spend on science research (to cure) diseases so that people don't get sick in the first place,” Zuckerberg said.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

God's got mail: Letters arrive at Jerusalem's Western Wall

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel's postal service is delivering letters to a unique address that hasn't changed in thousands of years. Ahead of the Jewish high holidays, it took some of the dozens of letters it receives each year that are addressed to God and delivered them to the Western Wall, where visitors traditionally place handwritten notes of prayer and wishes in the cracks between its stones. The postal service says the letters arrived from all over the world, including Russia, China, France, Nigeria and the United States. Most had no return address and were addressed to “God,” “Jesus” or “Our Dear Father in Heaven.” The Western Wall, located in Jerusalem's Old City, is a retaining wall of the compound where the biblical temples. It is one of the Holy Land's most-visited sites.

For sale: NY mansion of 'Keeping up with the Joneses' fame

RHINEBECK, N.Y. (AP)—A dilapidated mansion in New York believed to have inspired the phrase “Keeping up with the Joneses” is on the auction block. The Poughkeepsie Journal reports the 24-room Wyndclyffe Castle will be auctioned Wednesday. The mansion was built in 1853 in Rhinebeck as the country house of Manhattan socialite Elizabeth Schermerhorn Jones, a member of a wealthy family and aunt of American novelist Edith Wharton. The property's elegance is said to have prompted owners of nearby Hudson Valley estates to build even bigger mansions, giving birth to the idiom “Keeping up with the Joneses.” Wyndclyffe fell into disrepair under various owners and was abandoned in the 1950s. It was purchased in 2003 and is being put up for sale by its owner. The assessed value is nearly \$313,000.

Out of the wild: Police chase bear through Alaska city

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—A young black bear led police on a two-hour chase through the streets of downtown Anchorage, Alaska—scurrying down sidewalks and across lanes of traffic and even ducking

behind a Pizza Hut along the way. The Anchorage Police Department said they first received a call about the four-legged suspect around 6 p.m. Thursday. Police followed the bear until after 8 p.m., when the state Department of Fish and Game ended the animal's city tour. Video of the bear's exploits posted on Facebook by Anchorage police had been viewed more than 1 million times. No one was hurt during the bear's escapades. Police said wildlife officials relocated the furry tourist. Anchorage is home to some 300 bears, but police say encounters like this are rare.

Man who lost phone fleeing cops posts online: Don't call me

SCRANTON, Pa. (AP)—Authorities say a Pennsylvania drug suspect who dropped his cellphone while running away from police took to Facebook to warn his friends not to call that phone number. Lackawanna County detectives say 25-year-old Scranton resident James Lee Hankins fled when police tried to arrest him for an undercover drug deal involving heroin and cocaine on Monday afternoon. Police say a woman who knew Hankins let them search her apartment, and they found him minutes later in her basement on a computer that had a page open to Facebook. Detectives say Hankins posted a message telling friends he'd be off Facebook for a while and asking them not to call his phone until he said otherwise. Online court records don't list an attorney for Hankins.

Horse named Mercy freed from septic tank by rescue workers

BUNNELL, Fla. (AP)—Officials say animal rescue workers have freed a horse that fell into a septic tank hole in central Florida. Local media outlets report that Mercy, a 24-year-old quarter horse, fell through the tank's fiberglass cover Tuesday morning behind a home in Bunnell. Rescuers workers from Flagler and St. Johns counties spent about three-and-a-half hours working to free her. Jennifer Lockwood, a lead veterinarian at Shelton Veterinary Clinic, told the Daytona Beach News-Journal that Mercy sustained minor cuts and scrapes on her left shoulder and knee.

Lockwood said she will prescribe pain medications and antibiotics to help with the wounds, but expects the horse to fully recover.

Wireless signals can detect your feelings with new device

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)—What if your computer or smartphone could tell if you're happy or sad? A new device developed by researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology aims to detect emotions by sending wireless signals that measure heartbeats as the signals bounce off a person's body. Researchers from MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory say their device is 87 percent accurate in using heart rate and what it's already learned about a person to recognize joy, pleasure, sadness or anger, after the device first measures how each individual's body reacts in various emotional states. It works like an electrocardiogram monitor but without needing a sensor on the body to measure heartbeats. They say it could one day be used by advertising agencies to gauge audience reaction or in health care to diagnose depression or anxiety.

Call from Barnstable, UK, stumps police in Barnstable, Mass.

BARNSTABLE, Mass. (AP)—Police in Barnstable, Massachusetts, were stumped when a woman from a nearly identically named town in the United Kingdom called to report a car crash. The Boston Globe reports the call came in to Officer Mark McWilliams on Thursday. The woman tells McWilliams she was “driving back from Barnstable to Muddiford” when she saw the crash. A perplexed McWilliams asks the woman where she is, to which she replies: “Ilfracombe.” Ilfracombe is on the northern coast of England, about 13 miles north of Barnstable. McWilliams and the woman go back and forth for about two minutes before realizing they're on different continents. The two share a laugh and McWilliams deadpans: “Our response time is going to be about six hours.” The BBC says the woman misdialed after searching online for the police department's number.

With Much Gratitude



Sr. Maria Perez-Caballero, MMB

Laid to Rest – August 17th



Sr. Antonieta C. Ada, MMB

Laid to Rest – September 20th

We extend our sincere appreciation to each and every one who has joined us in your thoughts-prayers and contributed in any way for the recent passings of our two sisters—Sr. Maria and Sr. Antonieta. As we celebrate the Feastday of Our Lady of Mercy on September 24, we will remember you, your families and intentions in a special way.

Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz

Life & Style

3 years after '12 Years,' Nyong'o's face is back on screen

TORONTO (AP)—The filmmaker Mira Nair was familiar with the regal grace of Lupita Nyong'o long before most.

The Indian-born, New York-based Nair has been close friends with Nyong'o's family for years. One of Nyong'o's first jobs in the movies was interning in New York for Nair's production company. She also later worked for Nair's Uganda-centered film school, Maissha Film Labs.

What does Nair recall of Nyong'o as a younger woman?

"Like she is: immensely thoughtful and stylish," Nair says with a laugh. "She wouldn't speak unless she had something to say. And full of fun, which sometime you guys don't see. But there's a real appetite for life there."

In the African chess prodigy tale "Queen of Katwe," a now much more established Nyong'o has reunited with Nair

for a film that reflects much of the actress's past, as well as her future. It is, surprisingly, the first time moviegoers have gotten to see Nyong'o's face on screen since her breakout, Oscar-winning performance in 2013's "12 Years a Slave."

In the three years since, she's appeared in "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" in a motion-capture performance, lent her voice to "The Jungle Book" and starred on Broadway in Danai Guirira's Liberian drama "Eclipsed," earning a Tony nomination. But "Queen of Katwe," she says, epitomizes the kind of film she wants to be in.

"The success of '12 Years of Slave' has put me in a position where I can choose," Nyong'o said in a recent interview. "I want to honor the opportunity that I've been given. So I've worked very hard to choose things that I'm passionate



AP
In this Sept. 12, 2016 photo, actress Lupita Nyong'o, a cast member in the film "Queen of Katwe," poses for a portrait at The Omni King Edward Hotel in Toronto.

about because I think I'm most useful when I feel conviction. I want to continue to do work that moves me and develops

cultural conversations.

"It takes one film at a time, one story at a time, to actually shift the norm," she adds.

Pitt, Jolie star power mightier than box office power

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"By the Sea" didn't just flop at the box office. It was a flat out rejection, making a mere \$538,000 domestically. How could a movie starring the modern king and queen of Hollywood, Angelina Jolie Pitt and Brad Pitt, the couple who can fetch \$14 million for baby photos, have so little audience appeal?

That's the paradox of this movie star couple: Their star power has always been mightier than their box office power, whether together on screen or apart. And that's

not likely to change, now that they're divorcing.

"There really is no quantifiable effect that I can see that this would have on their careers or their star power," says Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box office tracker comScore. "No matter what movies Brad and Angelina are in, they will always be movie stars. That's just who they are. That's their persona. But I don't think there is anyone who makes a determination whether or not to buy a movie ticket based on the personal life of a star."

"Queen of Katwe," which opens Friday, is itself an anomaly. It's a family-friendly film made in Africa with an entirely black cast—a first for Disney. The film, about Phiona Mutesi's (newcomer Madina Nalwanga) rise from the Kat-

we slums in Kampala, Uganda, to elite levels of chess, is a family-friendly made in Africa with an entirely black cast—a first for Disney. Nair shot it in South Africa and Uganda. Nyong'o plays Phiona's headstrong mother.

Disney pulls boy's costume critics lambasted as 'Polyface'

HONOLULU (AP)—Disney said Wednesday it would no longer sell a boy's costume for a Polynesian character that some Pacific Islanders have compared to blackface.

The getup depicts Maui—a revered figure in Polynesian oral traditions and viewed by some Pacific Islanders as an ancestor—who is a character in the upcoming animated movie "Moana." It has a long-sleeve brown shirt and long pants featuring full-body tattoos. It comes with a fake shark-tooth necklace and green-

leaf "skirt."

Disney's online store had offered boy's pajamas and a men's t-shirt in a similar design, but those products were no longer available Wednesday.

"The team behind Moana has taken great care to respect the cultures of the Pacific Islands that inspired the film, and we regret that the Maui costume has offended some," the company said in a statement. "We sincerely apologize and are pulling the costume from our website and stores."

Bee says she likes Fallon, but couldn't take Trump interview

NEW YORK (AP)—Comic Samantha Bee insists she's a Jimmy Fallon fan. But she said Wednesday that her caustic attack this week on Fallon's now-infamous hair musing appearance with Donald Trump came because she'd had it with the "continued normalization of deplorable."

The fallout from Trump's "Tonight" show appearance last Thursday is the most serious faced by the genial Fallon since he replaced Jay Leno in 2014 and instantly

became the nation's most popular late-night host.

He received widespread criticism for being too chummy with the Republican candidate—Democrat Hillary Clinton jokingly presented Fallon with a bag of softballs—and Bee cited that appearance and Trump's week hosting "Saturday Night Live" last fall in a segment on her TBS show on Monday. She accused NBC of tacitly condoning a demagogue.



AP
This photograph of a computer screen shows the DisneyStore.com website's Maui Halloween costume on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016.

Profession of love comes too soon for divorce now dating

DEAR ABBY: I'm a recent divorcee who has started dating again. I have been seeing this guy — also divorced—for a few months, and he recently told me he loves me. There's definitely a mutual attraction, but I'm not ready for love again, which we've discussed in great detail.

When I ask him why he loves me, he can't answer specifically. His usual reply is something along the lines of, "I just do." I can't help but think maybe he doesn't really love me if he can't explain why. Am I overthinking this? Is our relationship moving too fast? What should I do?

NEW TO THIS IN IDAHO

DEAR NEW TO THIS: Take your time and continue getting to know this man. Do not let yourself be rushed into any commitment for which you are not ready. Divorce can be painful and leave one or both partners feeling a lack of self-esteem.

Because he seems unable to put his feelings into words, instead of asking him why he loves you, let him demonstrate the depth of his love for you through his actions. Time will tell if he is sincere.

DEAR ABBY: My husband's 67-year-old sister recently borrowed a large sum of money, but my husband told her not to worry about paying it back. They both receive Social Security benefits, but her payments are substantially larger. She supports

only herself. His check supports us both.

The problem is that for the past few months she has been borrowing money she promises to pay back, but when the time comes, instead of repaying it she asks for more money. We can't afford it, but he can't seem to tell his big sister no, and it's causing problems in our marriage.

I love my husband dearly, but I'm beginning to resent his sister for taking more money from us each month, and him for giving it to her. If I step in, I will be the bad guy. What is the best way to handle this situation?

GOING BROKE IN THE WEST

DEAR GOING BROKE: Step in and be the bad guy. Tell your husband's sister she won't be getting any more money unless she pays back what she has already "borrowed." Your sister-in-law probably won't like you for it, so be prepared to stand your ground and don't be surprised.

DEAR ABBY: I noticed a very attractive woman coming out of the library. She was wearing a soft, feminine short skirt. I wanted to compliment her, so I walked over and said, "I love your skirt—it looks so pretty." She said, "Thank you. You made my day!"

We had a great conversation for several minutes, after which we went our separate ways. Afterward I was kicking myself because I didn't ask for her phone number. It felt good to know

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



that my compliment made her feel pretty.

Do most women appreciate compliments about their clothing? I wouldn't want to make a woman feel uncomfortable. But it brightens my day when I can compliment someone.

LARRY IN LOS ANGELES

DEAR LARRY: It has been my experience that not only do most women appreciate a compliment, so do most men. If it brightens your day to offer one, go ahead and do it. And if someone has a problem with that, do not make it YOUR problem.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

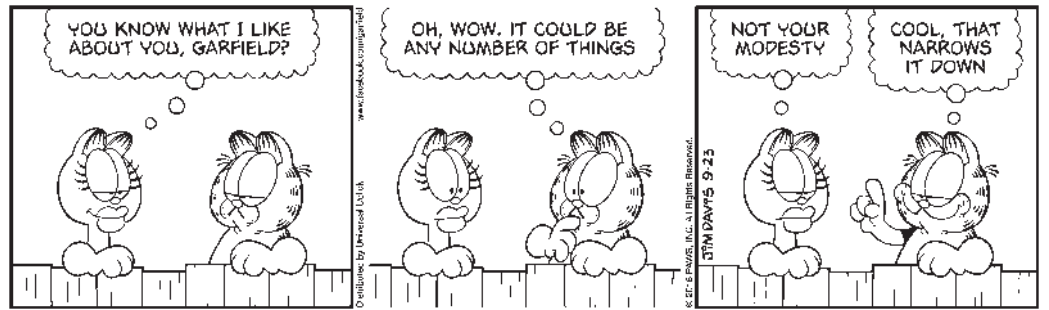
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

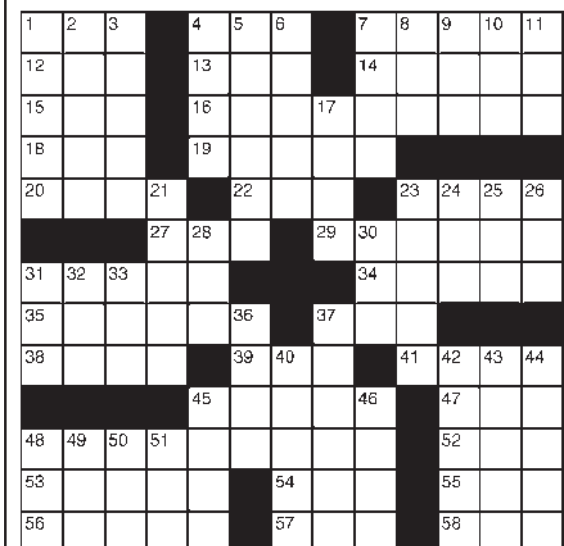
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Mayday!" machine
4 HST follower
7 Minty quaff
12 Single
13 Free (of)
14 "Pretty"
15 NASCAR advertiser
16 Quick bucks
18 Sashimi fish
19 Concepts
20 Hearing-impaired
22 Antlered grazer
23 Has a bug
27 Felon's flight
29 Australian opera house city
31 Block the flow of
34 Duck down
35 Small bus
37 "My word!"
38 Minn. neighbor
39 Where Lux is
- DOWN**
- 41 Sub-machine guns
45 Worth
47 Mound stat
48 Ed Norton
52 Journal
53 Mars explorer
54 Pub order
55 "CSI" evidence
56 Tuscany setting
57 Curved letter
58 Writer Rand
1 "What a pity!"
2 — house (free)
3 Old photo tint
4 Zwei follower
5 Crown
6 '50s Ford
7 Morrison and
8 Roswell sighting
9 Cariou of "Blue Bloods"
10 Shoe width
11 Laver
17 Tibetan herd
21 Fail an exam
23 Farewell
24 Neither Rep. nor Dem.
25 Writer Harper
26 Aleppo's land (Abbr.)
28 Mimic
30 "—haw!" (oater cry)
31 Dance club
32 Help
33 1959 Kingston Trio hit
36 Calendar quota
37 Thin porridges
40 Arm bones
42 Nintendo princess
43 O. Henry's specialty
44 Astronomer Carl
45 Differ
46 Seeing things
48 "Exodus" hero
49 Hogwash
50 FDR project
51 Animation frame

Solution time: 27 mins.



Yesterday's answer 9-23



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anthony Mackie, 38; Jason Alexander, 57; Bruce Springsteen, 67; Mary Kay Place, 69.

Happy Birthday: A moderate lifestyle and using diplomacy when dealing with others will help you get through this year unscathed. It's important to follow through with your promises, so don't offer the impossible. Emotions will take a chunk out of your ability to be productive if you let them interfere with your business or personal goals. Your numbers are 3, 11, 22, 24, 37, 41, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let an emotional situation cost you professionally. Throw yourself into your work and you will gain financially and build a good reputation for future advancement. Personal improvements will result if you discuss your options with others. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Socialize with people who are heading in a similar direction as you, and you will broaden your perspective on the possibilities that lay ahead. A short trip is favored, as well as face-to-face contact with others. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take on new challenges and show everyone what you are capable of doing. Actions will speak louder than words and ensure that you make your position clear. If opportunity knocks, prove that you are capable. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Use your head and you'll come up with ideas that will improve your domestic situation without overspending. Impulse purchases will

add to your stress, not your comfort. Exercise if you want to improve your appearance. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll attract a lot of attention if you step into the limelight. Your actions and sincere concern will give you the edge you need to get ahead. Romance is on the rise, and celebrating your victory with someone you love is encouraged. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Check your emotions at the door and head into whatever confrontation you face with a reasonable attitude and an interesting solution. Practicality will help you solve any problem that is stifling your productivity or progress. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Refuse to let your emotions stand in the way of what needs to be accomplished. Blowing situations out of proportion or letting someone annoy you will lead to disappointment. Stay focused on making positive changes and reaching your goals. **

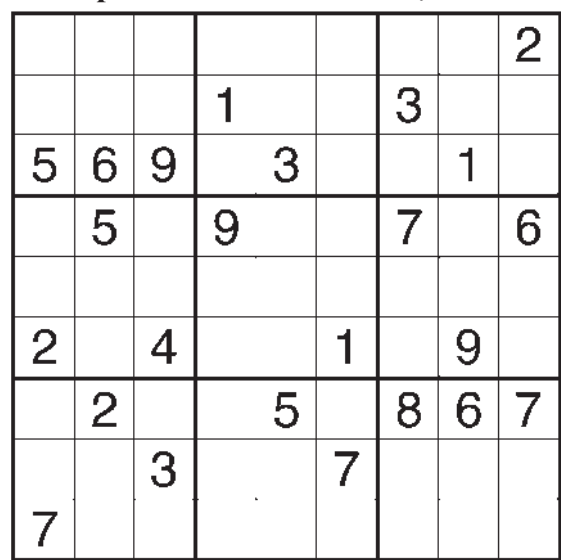
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Work from home if possible and you will avoid interference. An idea you have will turn into a profitable venture. Don't feel the need to share your good fortune with someone who hasn't contributed. Offer a treat, not a percentage. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Partnerships will cause emotional turmoil if you make assumptions or overreact to what others do or say. Stay calm and go about your business without getting involved in gossip or arguments that are a waste of time. ***

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



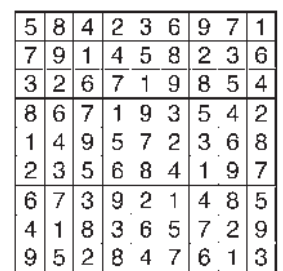
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/23

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Emotional situations will be difficult to control. Avoid conflict or messy situations that can result in emotional setbacks. Protect your possessions from someone looking for a handout or an easy way to make you look bad. ***



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll feel compelled to offer help, but before you take on a fight that doesn't belong to you, gather the facts. Offer suggestions, but don't take over or you will end up being blamed for something. ***



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Plan something special for you and the people you love the most. Hanging out with friends, family or neighbors will brighten your day and give you an incentive to spend more quality time enjoying your life. ****

Birthday Baby: You are flexible, outgoing and accommodating. You are informative and respected.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

THE PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS

Solution: 14 letters

A N S A I B O C I R E C N C I
Y N I U G A L L E R Y G P S C
N S T A R O B E R T I O E R O
O R S E T I O T I S H T C N N
M E E A N N A N E S A N I R I
R G W D L N U D R N O A N U C
A D K L O G A O W I L M E P P
H I R E I M T S F A C R P M A
S R A E A A T C H R E E L U R
T B P G L S T S U T S D E L K
N Y C A N T T E O R A I X A S
A K C R E Y O F R P R P J L O
N S L U E L M A L A Y S I A N
E W K O P E L L I O T N I U G
T E L C A N N I P L A N E K L

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Alain, Antennas, Cerico, Cesar, Cineplex, Courage, Design, East, Escalators, Fountain, Foyer, Gallery, Glass, Guinto, Harmony, Iconic, Isetan, KLOCC Park, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Otis, Parkson, Paths, Pelli, Pinnacle, Plan, Postmodern, Retail, Robert, Saibo, Shop, Skybridge, Spiderman, Style, Suria, Tenants, Tour, Train, Unity, West

Yesterday's Answer: **Blondie**
Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

Part-time help wanted \$10-\$15 per hour. Must have reliable transportation. Looking for hard working, dependable person, available to work some nights and weekends. Must have good computer skills and have access to a computer and scanner. Please email resume and contact information to: beneal2630@hotmail.com for consideration. We will train the right candidate!

CAR FOR SALE
2007 Toyota RAV-4 (Sport SUV Model)
Lady driven, 91k/miles, fully load, immaculate condition, Color: Blue
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Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Mason
(1) Architect
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▪ Knowledge on Korean language a plus
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ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**
MICRONESIA MARIANAS : CIVIL ACTION
DISTRIBUTING CORPORATION, NO. 92-0250
and consolidated
Plaintiff : cases
(C.A. Nos. 93-0808,
-v- : 00-0496, 01-0203,
01-0515, and
FREDDY U. HOFSCHEIDER, JR., : 01-0560; and S.C.
Nos. 99-1074,
Defendants. : 00-0012, 00-0053
and 00-0108)

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Amended Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on May 11, 2016, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:
Lot 025 T 03, containing an area of 48,914 square meters, situated in Marpo Valley, Tinian;
Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 30, 2016, at the hour of 1:30p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.
Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.
DATED, this 29th day of August, 2016:
/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY • CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP16-BECQ/DCRM-178**
SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 21, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.
**“CUBICLE WORKSTATIONS / PARTITIONS & OFFICE FURNITURE /
FIXTURES FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY –
DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT”**
THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP CAN BE MADE TO JANICE CASTRO BY E-MAIL TO janicecastro@becq.gov.mp NO LATER THAT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, OCTOBER 12, 2016.
THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.
THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.
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(Starting salary will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.)
Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950
Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.
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It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.
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Brissett would make Pats history as first black QB to start



BOSTON
(AP)—From his den in Huntsville, Alabama, Onree Jackson

will quietly root to see Jacoby Brissett under center when he watches New England host Houston on Thursday night.

Almost 50 years have passed, but Jackson still remembers his excitement when he was drafted out of Alabama A&M in 1969 by the Boston Patriots—the franchise's first black quarterback.

Back then, the team hailed his potential to be “the Willie Mays of pro football.” But he never played in a regular-season NFL game.

Now, Brissett could establish a footnote for a franchise born in a city with a complicated racial past, its first African-American player to start at quarterback. While the Patriots have been racially progressive in other ways, the New York Giants are the only other NFL team to have never started an African-American quarterback.

Brissett's opportunity comes because of two unusual factors. Tom Brady, the team's cornerstone, is suspended four games for his role in using underinflated footballs in the playoffs in 2015. And Brady's backup, Jimmy Garoppolo, has a shoulder injury and is listed as doubtful for Thursday.

While none have started



a regular-season game, the Patriots have drafted eight African-American quarterbacks. Michael Bishop played the most, appearing in eight games in 2000.

The potential distinction shows how much things have changed in 50 years.

“When I got there, there was a baseball player with the Red Sox and he said in the paper, ‘You know they’re not going to have an N-word quarterback here in Boston,’” Jackson, 69, recalled in an interview with The Associated Press.

“It was funny to him, I think, because they had a picture of him laughing in the papers,” Jackson said. “I had a shot, and I didn’t make it under their rules.”

Boston's professional teams—like the city's neighborhoods—had different reac-

tions to the civil rights movement and the integration of professional sports.

While the Celtics and Bruins broke barriers in pro basketball and hockey, the Red Sox were the last Major League Baseball team to field a black player. Pumpsie Green took the field at Fenway Park in 1959 - more than a decade after Jackie Robinson played for the Dodgers and even after Willie O'Ree took the ice for Boston in the all-white NHL. The Red Sox gave both Robinson and Mays tryouts in the 1940s before opting not to sign them.

Meanwhile, the Patriots neither led nor trailed the pack on such issues.

Jackson was drafted by Rommie Loudd, the AFL's first black assistant coach before he joined the Patriots in 1966. He moved to the team's front office and became its personnel director in 1969, one of the first black personnel directors in the NFL.

Jackson said he thought everything was fine until he drew consistent ire from then-coach Clive Rush, who told Jackson: “Joe wouldn’t do that.”

“He was talking about Namath,” Jackson said. “Me being who I am, and where I was from and all, I just accepted that and went on.”

Jackson was waived after a few months. Rush told the Frederick Daily Leader at the time that Jackson “was behind three other quarterbacks.”

“As I’ve grown older, I can see little signs that said, ‘You

In this Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016, file photo, New England Patriots quarterback Jacoby Brissett (7) pitches the ball in front of Miami Dolphins safety Michael Thomas (31) during the second half of an NFL football game in Foxborough, Mass. Two months ago, Brissett was a third-string rookie. On Thursday night, he could become the first African-American quarterback to start a regular-season game for the New England Patriots.

aren’t going to make it because you’re a black quarterback.’ That’s the way I interpreted it, anyway,” Jackson said.

Rush was fired after a losing season in 1969 and 1-6 start in 1970.

New England has never had a black head coach. Romeo Crennel, now defensive coordinator in Houston, held that job in New England before he was head coach in Cleveland and Kansas City. Bobby Griener, who is black, was an assistant coach with the Patriots who rose to be vice president of player personnel from 1997-2000.

Richard Johnson, curator of the Boston Sports Museum, said while the quarterback milestone would be unintentional, there has never been talk of race influencing the Pats’ personnel decisions.

“Under Bill Belichick, the best player has always played,” Johnson said.

Richard Lapchick, who has pushed for diversity across college and professional sports from The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sports, said the Patriots under owner Robert Kraft have consistently pushed for inclusion in several ways.

“They were working in the community on gender violence prevention in the early 1990s, 20 years before Ray Rice or even before O.J.,” Lapchick said.

The Patriots were also one of the first teams to help NFL players finish their degrees.

Josh Johnson, who is black and one of three Giants quarterbacks, was surprised when told his team could be the last to cross this particular racial benchmark.

“It shows progress,” he said. “That’s all you want to see, progress. Good luck to (Brissett), I hope he goes out and takes advantage of it. Opportunities come far and few.”

Though it didn’t work out for Jackson, he said he’s proud to have played a part toward seeing a day when no one notices who is or isn’t under center.

“It’s a pride thing now,” he said. “I’m proud of what happened. Though I didn’t make it, it was kind of a foot in the door type-thing.”

NBA, NBPA send players memo seeking ideas for social changes



MIAMI (AP)—NBA players are being urged to reach out to league and union officials to try and come up with ways to create “positive change” in communities around the country, a move that comes in response to protests in other sports about racial oppression and other social matters.

Players received a memo from the NBA and the National Basketball Players Association on Wednesday, one that announced that the league and the union, “working together, have begun developing substantive ways for us to come together and take meaningful action.”

A copy of the memo was obtained by The Associated Press. It did not remind players of the NBA’s rule saying players must stand for the national anthem, something that some athletes in other pro sports have chosen not to do in recent weeks in acts of protest.

“These ideas are based on the actions many of you have already taken or supported,

including convening community conversations in NBA markets to engage young people, parents, community leaders and law enforcement in a candid dialogue,” read one excerpt of the memo, signed by both NBA Commissioner Adam Silver and union head Michele Roberts.

They also said the game should continue bringing “people together and build bonds of trust in our communities.”

The memo was sent on the same day that each player on the WNBA’s Indiana Fever roster took a knee and linked arms with a teammate during the playing of the national anthem that preceded the team’s playoff game with the Phoenix Mercury.

“Well, we thought it was important to have a voice about something greater than basketball,” said Indiana’s Tamika Catchings, the longtime WNBA star who played her final game before retirement.

It also came on the same day that Golden State coach Steve Kerr said he expected NBA players to take some sort of stand on the issue.

The NBA and its players already are involved with several social programs together, including ones promoting mentoring. In the NBA rule book, the wording of the policy related to the anthem is this: “Players, coaches and trainers are to stand and line up in a dignified posture along the sidelines or on the foul line during the playing of the National Anthem.”

Protests during the playing of the anthem have been rare in the NBA, with perhaps the most famed example of one coming 20 years ago when Denver’s Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf refused to stand for the anthem because he felt the flag symbolized oppression. He was suspended for a game in March 1996 over his stance.

But NBA stars have not been shy about trying to promote social change, and LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, Chris Paul and Carmelo Anthony took the stage - at their own request - to begin the ESPY Awards broadcast this summer and spoke out about the wave of police shootings that created unrest around the

nation in recent months.

Their speech was referenced in the memo to players on Wednesday, with Silver and Roberts saying the four stars “spoke eloquently about the senseless acts of violence impacting our communities.”

“I’m all for people speaking out against injustice,” said Kerr, who was 18 when his father - the president of American University in Beirut - was murdered. “Whatever form that takes, if it’s non-violent and it leads to conversation, then I think that’s a good thing.”

Oklahoma City general manager Sam Presti said he would like to see Thunder players and staff continue standing for the anthem. He addressed the issue Wednesday, less than a week after an unarmed black man was fatally shot by a white police officer in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

“Our players have the opportunity and ability to express themselves as people and we respect that above all,” Presti said, speaking before the NBA’s announcement was distributed.

Cespedes denied game-winning HR, Braves edge Mets



NEW YORK
(AP)— Right in the middle of a pennant race, the New York Mets were robbed.

In an electrifying finish to a pressure-packed game for the Mets, center fielder Ender Inciarte took away a three-run homer from Yoenis Cespedes for the final out of Atlanta's 4-3 victory Wednesday night.

"Tremendous catch," New York manager Terry Collins said. "One of the best you'll ever see."

With two runners on in the bottom of the ninth inning, Cespedes made a bid for a game-winning homer by launching a drive to deep right-center. Inciarte raced a long way to the wall and timed his jump perfectly, catching the ball just above the orange line atop the fence.

"Probably the best catch I've ever made," Inciarte said. "I thought that ball was gone right (off) the bat. But it was the last play of the game. I was just giving everything I've got."

And with that, the Mets were handed another damaging defeat by the last-place Braves after squandering a three-run lead.

Rather than regaining sole possession of the NL wild-card lead, New York remained tied with San Francisco and St. Louis for the league's final two playoff spots. The Giants lost to the Dodgers, and the Cardinals were routed in Colorado.

Dodgers 9, Giants 3

In Los Angeles, Yasiel Puig's three-run homer highlighted a five-run first inning and the Dodgers routed the Giants, extending their NL West lead to six games with 10 remaining.

The Dodgers pounded out 12 hits in taking two of three from the rival Giants, who



AP
New York Mets' third baseman Jose Reyes, left, picks off Atlanta Braves' Malle Smith, who got caught off base in the sixth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016, in New York.

remained tied in the NL wild-card race after both the Mets and Cardinals lost earlier.

Cubs 9, Reds 2

In Chicago, John Lackey pitched seven solid innings for his first win in six weeks, Miguel Montero drove in three runs, and Chicago swept Cincinnati.

Kris Bryant hit his 38th homer and Dexter Fowler also connected to help major league-leading Chicago move a season-high 42 games over .500.

Red Sox 5, Orioles 1

In Baltimore, Boston scored five unearned runs in the sixth inning after first baseman Chris Davis' throwing error and beat Baltimore to pad its AL East lead.

Andrew Benintendi hit a three-run homer for the Red Sox, who will try to complete a four-game sweep Thurs-

day night. Boston pulled five games ahead of Toronto and six in front of Baltimore.

Yankees 11, Rays 5

In St. Petersburg, rookie Gary Sanchez hit two more homers and drove in five runs, Masahiro Tanaka won despite allowing four home runs in the third inning and New York beat Tampa Bay.

The Yankees moved within 2 1/2 games of Baltimore for the second AL wild-card spot.

Mariners 2, Blue Jays 1, 12 innings

In Seattle, Robinson Cano drove in the winning run with a sacrifice fly in the 12th inning and the Seattle beat Toronto to avoid a series sweep.

Knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (10-15) came in on the 12th for his first relief appearance after 29 starts.

Nationals 8, Marlins 3

In Miami, Max Scherzer pitched 6 2/3 innings to tie for the National League victory lead with 18, helping Washington beat Miami.

Scherzer (18-7) allowed three runs and struck out eight to push his major league-leading total to 267.

Indians 4, Royals 3

In Cleveland, Corey Kluber allowed two runs and struck out nine in 6 1/3 innings, and the Cleveland beat Kansas City to eliminate the reigning World Series champions from the AL Central race.

The Indians reduced their magic number for clinching the Central to five.

Angels 5, Rangers 4

In Arlington, Mike Trout hit his 28th homer and Jered Weaver went six innings for his 150th victory in an Angels uniform,

helping Los Angeles beat the AL West-leading Texas.

The magic number for Texas (90-63) to win its second consecutive AL West title remained at two after the loss and second-place Houston's victory at Oakland.

Rockies 11, Cardinals 1

In Denver, Nolan Arenado hit a grand slam, German Marquez pitched five solid innings for his first major league win and Colorado slowed St. Louis' playoff chase.

Arenado made it 6-1 in the second with his NL-leading 39th homer.

Marquez (1-0) made his first big league start after three appearances out of the bullpen.

Astros 6, Athletics 5

In Oakland, Evan Gattis homered twice, catcher Jason Castro threw out a runner to end the game and Houston beat Oak-

land to complete a series sweep.

Oakland scored on second baseman Jose Altuve's fielding error with two outs in the ninth inning to pull to 6-5. Castro then threw out pinch-runner Arismendy Alcantara trying to steal second.

Pirates 4, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Sean Rodriguez hit a home run and a two-run single, Andrew McCutchen went deep, rookie Chad Kuhl pitched six strong innings and Pittsburgh beat Milwaukee.

The Pirates won their sixth straight at Miller Park, and sixth of seven overall.

Phillies 8, White Sox 3

In Philadelphia, Tommy Joseph homered, doubled and drove in three runs and Jerad Eickhoff outpitched Chris Sale in Philadelphia's victory over Chicago.

Joseph has 21 home runs, third most among rookies in the majors. The Phillies teed off on Sale (16-9), tagging the ace for six runs and seven hits in four innings.

Diamondbacks 3, Padres 2

In San Diego, Paul Goldschmidt homered twice, including a go-ahead, two-run shot in the sixth inning, and Zack Greinke pitched six strong innings to lead Arizona past the Padres.

The Diamondbacks pulled into a tie with the Padres for fourth place in the NL West at 64-88.

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PIC Point Break Competition this weekend

Small board wave riders from throughout the region are coming to Saipan this weekend as Pacific Islands Club hosts the 10th Annual Point Break Invitational Competition.

Point Break is PIC Saipan's Flowrider machine that attracts top flowboard and bodyboard riders from Korea, Japan, Russia, and the United States during the two-day competition in San Antonio. PIC Saipan Sports and Events manager Keoni Ichihara said this year's event will feature 13 different categories and competitors may enter in multiple events.

"We've got a division for children under 11 years of age, students between 12 and 17 years of age, and for masters who are 35 years of age and above," Ichihara said. "But what I'm most excited about is the tricks in the Ex-

pert and Open divisions."

The seeding process takes place today at 5pm when the Open and Expert riders will be given two 45-second rides to showcase their skills. The rider with the highest scores (combined two rides) will get the top seed, which is a huge advantage as all of the higher-seeded riders will be paired against the lower-seeded riders in the elimination round that will start this Saturday at 10am.

While many travel thousands of miles to compete in the event, some of the top talent is homegrown. Last year's bodyboard champion, Ray Babauta, is also PIC Saipan's Entertainment supervisor. He has spent countless hours preparing to defend his title this weekend but said the competition will be wide open.

"The talent gets better every year," Babauta said. "I've



JON PEREZ

Keoni Ichihara prepares to launch himself and do tricks in last year's Point Break Open at the Pacific Islands Club's flowrider facility in San Antonio.

seen a lot of people up their game at the training sessions and I expect more of the same when we kick off the competition Friday night."

At stake for the competitors are trophies and \$10,000 worth of cash and other prizes from the following sponsors: IT&E, Bridge Capital, LLC, PIC Saipan, Pacific Trading Co., and Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods.

Registration for the two-day competition is still open and should be done by 2pm today.

For more information, contact Ichihara at keoni.ichihara@picsaipan.com or 237-5174. (PR)

United ends losing skid, sets up Mourinho vs Guardiola in cup

MANCHESTER, England (AP)—Get ready for Jose Mourinho vs. Pep Guardiola, part II.

Manchester United ended a run of three straight losses by capitalizing on two goalkeeper mistakes to beat third-tier Northampton 3-1 in the third round of the League Cup on Wednesday.

The reward wasn't kind for United: A match against Manchester City in the last 16 next month and a renewal of the Mourinho-Guardiola rivalry that has been transferred from Spain to the north of England this season.

While Guardiola's City was winning its ninth successive game of the season by beating Swansea 2-1 away, United labored again and needed a helping hand from Northampton's error-prone goalkeeper and its strong bench to end the first blip of Mourinho's tenure.

Northampton goalkeeper Adam Smith was penalized for picking up a back pass and

United scored from the resulting free kick, Michael Carrick lashing home a shot after Wayne Rooney's attempt was blocked.

United was pegged back by a penalty and then took the lead against through Ander Herrera in the 68th minute before Smith dallied over a clearance and was dispossessed by substitute Marcus Rashford, who scored into an empty net.

"I think the team was in control from the beginning," Mourinho said. "The game could and should have been easier."

Rooney was one of the few regulars to start for United and was handed a rare chance to lead the attack in the absence of Zlatan Ibrahimovic. Rooney missed a good early chance and finished the game on the right wing after Ibrahimovic and Rashford were thrown on by

Mourinho, with United drawing 1-1 at that stage.

A victory over lower-league opposition will serve as only brief respite for Mourinho, who will be back under scrutiny if United loses to Leicester on Saturday after successive losses to Manchester City, Feyenoord and Watford in the space of nine days.

Gael Clichy and Aleix Garcia were the second-half scorers for a much-changed Man City side, which kept up its 100 percent start under Guardiola. Amid City's nine-game winning run was an eye-catching 2-1 win at United.

Vincent Kompany started for City in his first game of the season after a thigh injury, but left the field seconds after Gylfi Sigurdsson pulled a goal back for Swansea in injury time. Kompany, City's club captain, has been out since May 4.



CHURCH

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Paire's Justin Weaver, TanHoldings' Angelo, Kanoa's Jaydee Jose, and MP United 2's Garrett Weaver registering two each, and Kanoa's Merrick Toves and Ian Lubao and MP United 2's Leopoldo Naraja recording one apiece.

In the girls U15 age group, there is also a three-way tie among Matansa's Lyka Sally and Guinevere Borja, and Kanoa's Toremy Diaz. Lyka had three goals in their 8-0 beating of TanHoldings in Week 1 and tallied one in their 4-6 loss to Shirley's last weekend. Borja scored

two each in their first two games, while Diaz posted all four in their 7-0 thrashing of TanHoldings in Week 2.

Shirley's FC's Diana Manacop, Katrna Coastales, and Lillian Podziewski, MP United's Gillian Gillavomez, and Matansa's Angel Sally have two each to make it to the Top 10.

In the boys U17 division, Matansa's Jun Sik Kim is alone on top with his five goals, carding three in their 11-2 whipping of Paire and two more in their draw against MP United in Week 2. Lurking behind Kim is his teammate Evan Belcher and TanHoldings' Louie Calayag, who

have three each. Belcher got his three goals in the season-opening win, while Calayag recorded one and two in TanHoldings 2-1 win over MP United and 5-0 victory versus Kanoa.

Meanwhile, Kaden Church's four goals in Paire's 6-2 win over MP United gave him a head start in the boys U14 division. Kaden leads Matansa's Razeff Altamirano, Glenn Mark Basallo, and Iverson Santos and TanHoldings' Kirro Batino and Mark Esalan, who have two goals each. Eight other players made it to the board in the opening week of the division.

LOPSIDED

From Page 40

up by only 7, 17-10, before pulling away in the remaining three periods.

The debuting Ace Hardware drew 22 points from Ken Viray to rout the Chinese Association, while Sid Quan and Alex Lauron also finished in double figures with 18 and 14, respectively.

Mii Tekopua paced the Chinese Association with his 15 markers and clearly lacked support from his teammates, as only four other players on the squad made it to the board in its first game in the inaugural league.

Ace Hardware, on the other hand, got enough contributions from other players to complement Viray, Quan, and Lauron's good games. Seven other Ace Hardware players scored and four of them had at least 5 markers each.

In the first game, Jack Lizama led the way for the Ol'Aces, as he sizzled for 28 points. The Ol'Aces improved to a 2-0 record to get the early lead in the open division of the league.

Preston Basa, Jesus Iguel,

and Romeo Iginoef backed Lizama up, combining for 49 points. Basa, who had 9 markers in their 79-65 debut win over GMI Market, this time hit double figures, recording 17. Iguel chipped in 16—a big improvement from his 4-point production in their first game—and Iginoef had the same output in his debut with the Ol'Aces.

Dean Blake registered 15 points for the Junior Ol'Aces, who dropped to an 1-1 record.

First Game

Ol'Aces 92— Lizama 28, Basa 17, Iguel 16, Iginoef 16, Libuw 4, Palino 4, Nakashima 4, Deleen Guerrero 4, Barcinas 3.

Junior Ol'Aces 69 — Blake 15, Sakisat 14, Sablan 12, Atalig 10, Kabiriel 8, Onopwy 4, Castro 4.

Second Game

Ace Hardware 92 — Viray 22, Quan 18, Lauron 14, B. Sablan 9, Babauta 6, J. Sablan 5, Younis 2, Rosario 2, Rabauliman 2.

Chinese Association 46 — Tekopua 15, Zhe 12, Zhang 11, Hao 6, Liu 2.

NMIFA

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Kingfishers' turf from 3:15pm to 4pm. On Sept. 28, Sekiguchi and Jerishwin Angeles will head to Oleai Elementary School for the 2:45pm to 3:30pm trial at the Turtles field.

For the fourth tryout on Sept. 28, Sekiguchi and company will head up north at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School. The trial will run from 2:45pm to 3:30pm.

On Sept. 29, NMIFA will conduct tryouts both at the

southern and northern sides of the islands. The trial at the Kolblerville Elementary School will take place from 3pm to 3:45pm, while Kagman Elementary School's session will be held from 2:15pm to 3pm.

For its last tryout for public schools, NMIFA will go to San Vicente Elementary School on Sept. 30 and will have the trial from 2:45pm to 3:30pm.

Sept. 30 is also the date of the tryout for private school students and it will be held at the Oleai Sports Complex from 3:15pm to 4pm.

NMIFA will select 10 to

12 players from each public school and 12 players from the combined private schools and at the end of the program, the eight squads will play in a tournament. Chosen players will also have a chance to train under visiting Japanese coaches and student-players from Saipan Football Business Academy, according to Angeles.

A coach from SFBA arrived on Saipan yesterday to prepare for the training session with the selected players and one more will visit the island along with three students.

SCS vs GCA in COPSSA Middle School Volleyball League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



A Saipan Community School player bumps the ball during their game against Grace Christian Academy 1 in the 2016-2017 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League last Tuesday at the SCS court.



Grace Christian Academy's Ji Min Woo digs the ball.



A Saipan Community School player tosses the ball.



A Grace Christian Academy player makes a return while her teammate looks on.



Grace Christian Academy's Joshua Pajarillaga attacks the net.



A Grace Christian Academy player receives a serve at the backline.



Saipan Community School players and their coach huddle during a timeout.



Saipan Community School's Chris Kim serves.



Brissett would make Pats history as first black QB to start

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Cespedes denied game-winning HR, Braves edge Mets

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Church, 2 TanHoldings players on top

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paire Football Club's Max Church and TanHoldings FC's Kohtaro Goto and Oliver Fajardo are ahead in the early race for the Golden Boot award in the co-ed U12 competitive division of the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League.

Church, Goto, and Fajardo have collected five goals apiece after Week 2 of the league with the former catch-

ing up with the two TanHoldings players following his four-goal production in Paire's 9-3 rout of MP United 2 last



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Paire Football Club's Max Church, right, dribbles away from his teammate and an MP United 2 defender during the second half of their co-ed 12 competitive division game in the NMIFA fall youth league last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Lopsided victories for Ol'Aces, Ace Hardware

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces and Ace Hardware eased past their respective opponents in the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation's Inaugural Men's Outdoor League last Wednesday night at the San Antonio court.



Ol'Aces showed no love lost to sister team the Junior Ol'Aces, 92-69, while in the second match, Ace Hardware walloped the Chinese Association, 92-46.

The Chinese Association kept up with Ace Hardware only in the first quarter, as the former was

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Saturday. Church's other goal was made in their 9-9 draw against TanHoldings in the opening week of the competition.

Fajardo, on the other hand, bagged four goals for TanHoldings in Week 1, while

Goto started the season by knocking in three goals. Goto added two in their 3-5 loss to Kanoa last weekend, while Fajardo posted the other goal in the defeat.



Not far behind Fajardo, Goto, and Church are the latter's teammates Dylan Mister and Maui Johnson, who have earned four goals each. Mister got two goals apiece in their

game against TanHoldings and MP United 2 and Johnson had the same record.

Seven other players in the division have made it to NMIFA's goal tracker list with

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NMIFA to start fall season of elite academy

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will kick off the fall season of the National Elite Academy with a series of tryouts, beginning on Monday at the various school fields on Saipan.

NEA is a talent-identification program of NMIFA and focuses on male and female students in the elementary division (fourth and fifth graders) of both public and private schools in the CNMI. Players selected to join the academy undergo a specialized training program under NMIFA technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi and his staff and have a chance to join the Commonwealth's youth national teams.

For its first stop, NMIFA will be at the Garapan Elementary School for the Sept. 16 tryout that will run

from 2:45pm to 3:30pm. At the tryout at the GTC pitch, NMIFA's coaching staff will evaluate student-players' skills

and introduce drills to test the participants.

Up next is the tryout for William S. Reyes Elementary

Schools students and it will be held on Sept. 27 at the

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Youth players, seen here chasing the ball during a local league, are invited to try out for one of the eight teams in the National Elite Academy.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Ol'Aces' Jack Lizama, second right, scored 28 points in their 92-69 win over the Junior Ol'Aces in the MIBF outdoor league last Wednesday at the San Antonio court.